

on Pedder's Wharf would not be of use to strangers; and whether it is any use spending money to maintain a signal station among the clouds, where for nine hours per day the sun is entirely obscured by thick banks of fog. But all this the Council cannot rectify. It is too busy passing Ordinances to give other ordinances the same power as if they had come into force on some day they didn't; and making it penal to run away with the forts, or make faces at them; and preventing abuses connected with the erection of public latrines (though nothing is said as to their non-erection); and such great and burning questions are occupying the Council's time. Would you have them do some work?

Yours, etc.,
GOGGLES.

Hongkong, 28th May, 1891.

THE EDITOR'S STORY.

BY ALFRED H. MILKS.

The Editor dipped his pen The Editor sat
In the ink In his high-backed chair
He smelt a smelt He listened a hark
And he smelt a smelt And he looked a stare
He chuckled a chuck And he thought a think
And he thought a think And he thought a think

"Twas a time of dearth Of news and the earth
Was rolling and bowling His head in some 'copy'
Along on his axis As walked the Captain
With never a murmur Concerning the taxes
And never an earthquake A cyclone, or comet
Or a war, or a special Warrant 'a special'
Or a sonnet A phalanx had routed
Time for the papers While he nervously
And puzzled the brains Of the paraphrasers
The cane in his hand, Till the whole earth
Which so often had seemed nothing
But gases and vapours, A mutinous band.
But the Editor vowed Ere the setting sun
Should settle again In the horizon
"He would stabber the And his heart repre-
sented fabric Of sweet content
Its wildest commotion. And brew a wild storm
In a moment he took In the firmament
The whole situation, And the Editor wrote—
And double-distilled it But I'm not going
to in heart palpitation. quote—
Far be it from me to set So he quickly arose
rumours afloat With a dignified air
Suffice it to say With a wave of the hand
That the paper next day And a nod at a chair
Contained such a shock As the Editor stated
For Captain Macfarlane Good Sir, for minute
The whole world declared 'Tis the Editor's room
A regular mess; And I'll soon send 'him
And what made it worse Then as quick as a flash
He inserted a rubber For the world renowned
Of his own brilliant wit, millionnaire
Alderman Grubber. He opened the door
Now the Captain, you With a skip and a bound
know, Over the stairs to the
Had been out to the ground
Indices. Floor returns around.
And now how to kick up Saw the spot he was
bound. As well as stop, blunder
Why, he'd fought single- For, was guarded in force
handed By that great "butler
A hundred wild niggers tubber"
All flashing their sabres The patriot millionnaire
And pulling their trig-Alderman Grubber,
gers. A smart riding whip
And he'd killed every impatiently cracking
single The food for his venge-
Man Jack of a fellow With no other weapon
The only thing lacking. Than a silk umbrella. "Is the Editor in?"
He tore up rebellious Said the voice that had
Foul words by the road, thrilled
and he A thousand times over
Did more than Havelock The big town-hall filled
To put down the mutiny. While the crack of his
And to be told by a dirty whip
Low thief of an Editor And the stamp of his feet
That had been far too made the Editor wish
long Himself in the street.
His proud country's credit But an Editor's over-
thor. A man of resource
For pensions unworried He is never tied down
for To one definite course
And honours, unwon. He shrunk not a shrink
And that rather than Nor wavered a wave
fight He black not a blink
He'd far more likely run; Nor quavered a quaver,
To be told after acting But he pointed upstairs,
So gallant a part, As he returned to the door,
He'd more pluck in his And said, "Editor's
heels."

Then he had in his heart No second floor.
Why sounds, man—the Like a tiger let loose
words used On its innocent prey.
They must make Dutch Strove the Alderman
of; They're as warm as the That sorrowful day,
chutney. Like a lion impatiently
He'd eaten so much of; Waiting his foe,
And he gave the poor The Captain was pacing
table The room to and fro,
A terrible look And the Alderman
As he said "Odds, bobs, nobis, gobs, fobs!" But here draw a veil,
I—"let 'em know." There is much to be
And Alderman Grubber said for
Was not determined, And much to bewail.
Though his gown was all For whoever began it,
silk, Or ended the fray
And its edge was all; they found in the
ermined
After thirty years' service When they swept it
To one corner of the room
To be libelled at last Was a large pile of frag-
ments. By the foul allegation
That he'd been nicely Beyond all identity
paid. A monument said
For his work by the To the conflict's in-
tensity; That the Town Hall, and the chemist he said
Workhouse. When the coroner ques-
tioned him, He told him,
Were all built on ground. He had carefully tested
Which, by twissings and M. O. carefully tested
turnery. Was bought "through and all they could find
the nose."
At a fabulous rate (Besides tables and
From the parrot lord chairs
Of the Grubber estate. And such parenthetic)
Why, turtle and turbot. He swore as he turned
Hock, champagne and White, black, blue,
sherry, green, and purple,
"Twouldn't sile the Arch-Was one stone of chum-
blion."
Of Canterbury. And two stone of turtle.
And the Editor thrived
As all Editors should
Who devote all their time
To their countrymen's goods,
For the paper containing
This little affair
Ran to twenty editions,
And sold everywhere.
And the moral is plain—
Though you do your own writing
There are some better plans
Than to do your own fighting.

LATE TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, May 28th.

Mr. Hyman, Conservative candidate, has been elected for South Dorset in place of the late Colonel Hambro, defeating the Gladstonian Liberal candidate by forty votes.

NEW YORK, May 28th.

The Chilean insurgent steamer *Itata*, whilst loading munitions of war at San Diego in California, was boarded by the United States Marshal at that port who laid embargo upon the vessel; the Captain, however, confined the Marshal to the ship until she was safe outside the harbour and then landed him, at a distant point from the shore; the pilot was not allowed to leave the vessel. Several United States war ships have been dispatched in pursuit of the *Itata*.

CAPE TOWN, May 28th.

A proclamation has been issued notifying the annexation by the British Government of the territory west of Bechuanaland, known as the Bastard's country. This step has been taken with the object of preventing the Boers from trekking through to Mafeking.

LISBON, May 28th.

A Government decree, issued here to-day, orders the coinage of silver to the value of half a million sterling and also empowers the Bank of Portugal to pay its notes in silver for a period of three months. The object of these measures is to provide a remedy for the dearth of gold, which is stated to be due to the lock-up of capital.

LONDON, May 28th.

Mr. Goschen gave notice in the House of Commons last night that he would move on Tuesday next for the production of a copy of the warrant which was issued for the arrest of Mr. De Cobain, member for Belfast East.

ST. PETERSBURG, May 28th.

The statement that the Paris house of Rothschilds had refused to proceed with the issue of the new Russian conversion loan, owing to the renewed persecution of Jews, is now confirmed by the Russian papers, which state that the Russian Government rejected the demands of the Rothschilds for better treatment of the Jews in Russia.

The order for the expulsion of Jews from Moscow has been suspended for one or two years, to enable them to pay their debts to Russian subjects; it is considered probable that their expulsion will ultimately be abandoned.

The police have seized a secret printing press and a large quantity of revolutionary proclamations which were found in a house in the city, and a number of persons suspected of being implicated in the plot have been arrested.

LISBON, May 28th.

A run was made on the banks of Lisbon yesterday and to-day, owing to the reported embarrasments of the Banco Lusitano.

LONDON, May 28th.

The election of a member of Parliament for Harborough took place yesterday and resulted in the return of Mr. Logan, Gladstonian Liberal candidate, by a majority of 40 votes over Mr. Hardy, Conservative candidate.

Lord Knutsford, Sir John Gorst and many members of the House of Commons are suffering from influenza.

THE DEATH OF MADAME BLAVATSKY.

A resolution has been passed by the Newfoundland Legislature engaging the colony to adopt such laws as may be necessary to carry out the proposal made to the Imperial Government by their delegates. The Admiralty have decided to reinforce the North American Station with the new cruiser *Tartar* and a torpedo vessel.

CALCUTTA, May 28th.

The Manipur Rajah and the Tongal Major have been captured; the latter is a decrepit old man, but he is responsible for more bloodshed during the independent Manipur rule than many an African savage king. The villagers are all retreating to their homes and pursuing agricultural labours as if nothing had happened.

LISBON, May 28th.

A Government decree has been issued granting a delay of sixty days in meeting all obligations owing to the great run upon the Bank here, and the consequent heavy demands made by banks upon the Bank of Portugal; the decree has created widespread panic.

LONDON, May 28th.

Mr. Gladstone was yesterday seized with a sudden fit of shivering and has since been confined to his room, which Sir Andrew Clarke has forbidden him to leave for several days.

BUENOS AIRES, May 28th.

In a speech at the opening of Congress yesterday, Dr. Pellegrini, President of the Republic, favoured a reform in the currency of the state on a silver basis.

LONDON, May 28th.

Lord Kautaford's Newfoundland Fisheries Bill has passed the Lords.
Mr. Gladstone is suffering from cold, accompanied by fever.

Mr. Cunningham-Graham addressed a Socialist meeting at Leeds yesterday, and at the termination of his speech he was arrested by the police and conducted on board the steamer leaving for Dover.

The death is announced of Lady Wood, wife of General Sir Evelyn Wood.

THE DISTURBANCES IN THE NORTH.

Commenting on the disturbances in the northern river ports, the *N. C. Daily News* of the 20th inst. says:—

The very full accounts with which our correspondents have furnished us leave nothing untold of what occurred at the recent riot at Wuhu, and they confirm our hypothesis that the Secret Societies are at the bottom of these outbreaks. It would be a great mistake to suppose that the attack on the Roman Catholic property was a mere local outbreak, motivated by suspicion of the objects of the Fathers in collecting young children for their orphanage. It was, we are assured, an incident in a very much more serious and wide-spread scheme; and the popular suspicion, as well as the readiness to plunder and pillage of the rowdies of whom Wuhu is a centre, were only tools used by the leaders of the Secret Societies, of which the famous *Kiao Hui* is the most important. It will, of course, have been noticed that the Wuhu outbreak was not an isolated affair. It was preceded by an outbreak at Yangchow, which was caused by the energy of the officials, and has been followed by a threatened outbreak at Nanking, which was also stopped in time by similar means, the local authorities being stimulated to activity by the victory at Nanking. In fact, the whole Yangtze valley, from the junction of the Han with the Yangtze down to Chinkiang, is, we are assured, teeming with excitement.

It was stated some time ago that the death of the Viceroy Tseng was to be the signal for a succession of outbreaks at the river ports. The plotters were willing, in consideration of his popularity with all ranks and classes of Chinese, to make his name, and his services to the country, to be a quiet during his lifetime; and he was there at Nanking, the very centre of the

disaffection which exists all over North-China, and especially in the Yangtze valley. The Chinese army and the troops at Nanking especially, are, we are told, full of sedition, and the secret societies number many officials and more expectant officials on their rolls, some being in high and responsible positions. It has been noticed, of course, that the mob at Wuhu were led by well-dressed men in the actual destruction of property, but confined themselves to directing the attack. These are not the men who believe that the French Fathers make medicine of children's eyes, or that Chinese Catholic nuns can make children deaf and dumb by patting their heads, though it suits them very well to make use of these stories to excite the "ignorant persons" of whom the Viceroy talks in his telegram to the German Acting Consul-General here. The "mob" are the tools of these men; they are led by the rowdies and thieves and discharged soldiers whom the secret society men have always at hand; but two-thirds or more of the rabble are merely sight-seers, brought to the scene by curiosity, and naturally ready to annex whatever they can when they see the plundering beginning.

It is a noticeable thing that in these riots no foreign life has been seriously in danger so far, because these outbreaks are not ultimately directed against foreigners. Their object is the overthrow of the government with foreigners, as a step towards the overthrow of the government and the dynasty. Men who know Hankow and the temper of the people of the three cities, Hankow, Hanayang, and Wuchang, were gravely apprehensive that there would be a serious riot when the Caravitch was there; but Chang Chih-tung is an able and determined man, and he was on his mettle; and although he is not personally fond of foreigners—and very few high officials are—he was determined that there should be no trouble. After a riot it is not the leaders that are punished, for they have often high connections that make it more difficult for the officials to leave them alone; it is some of the unfortunate common people, who took part in the affair without even knowing what their leaders were driving at.

"We dwell on this not, perhaps, because it needs this explanation, but because it shows how important it is that the river ports should not be unprotected as they have been of late. While there have been so far no foreign lives sacrificed in these outbreaks, that may come, if the Secret Societies do not obtain their aim by destroying property. If, as we believe, these outbreaks are directed more against the government than against foreigners, it is a kindness to the government to keep foreign men-of-war on the Yangtze, and thus prevent these riots. The present government of China is not at all what we wish it to be, but we do not believe that we have anything to gain by another rebellion, and if the secret societies effected their purpose, the result would probably be years of anarchy and civil war. If we send our gunboats up the river for the preservation of order, we are assisting the government and its officials; if we withdraw them, for fear of wounding somebody's susceptibilities, we are encouraging the government's worst enemies. Our rules have no right to leave the defence of the river and property of foreigners to soldiers who are only too ready to turn their jackets inside out, and join the mob in looting. If there is to be no bad, H.E. Liu Kun-yi, the present Viceroy at Nanking, was sent there on Tseng Kuo-chuan's death, after nine years' retirement, because the government thought it dangerous to send any but a Hunan man to look after the Hunan braves who compose the Nanking garrison; and this shows what Feking thinks of the spirit of some of the best troops. The proclamation of which we print a translation this morning shows that the outbreak at Wuhu is staged for the present, the Taotai has done nothing to overawe his leaders; and we seriously counsel Admiral Richards in the interest alike of the foreigners at the river ports and the Chinese government, to reinforce the very small British squadron in these waters.

NEWS AND GOSSIP.

Effel's tower "causes thunder-storms." Paris will build an underground railway.

Electricity runs a Wurtemberg iron works. Japan will double the number of its warships. Vienna's palace will have 8,000 electric lights.

Quinine is now successfully manufactured in Madras. Emperor William will inspect the Alsace-Lorraine fortresses.

Orange-growing in the Riviera is suffering from the building mania. The French Government will consent to the burial of Prince Napoleon's body at Ajaccio.

Welsh tip-players are obliged to shut down for a month on account of the McKinley bill.

Queen Victoria has presented a richly caparisoned Indian elephant to the Emperor of Morocco.

Emira Pasha has been honored by German botanists. A new plant has been called *Emilia Eminensis*.

The finances of Peru are greatly demoralized and disorganized. The public debt approximates \$250,000,000.

The Danish King's crown is worth \$135,000; the Queen's crown, \$17,500, and the sword of state, \$15,000.

Since 1880 over 700 applications for patents for electric accumulators have been made in England alone.

Sale on the street of the leading newspapers of St. Petersburg has been suspended by the Russian Government.

The much-talked-of Siberian Railway will soon be begun, the condemnation of land for the first section having taken place.

The Town Council of Brussels has resolved to do its own electric lighting, and not grant concessions to any company.

Canon Scott declares that in England there are no fewer than 70,000 girls engaged in "public houses and drinking bars."

Heilgard is not to be named another Gibraltar, but will be fortified on a small scale, so as to be of some use to Germany in case of war.

A petition against the employment of young girls as barmaids has been presented to the King of Sweden. The petition has 10,000 signatures.

An exhibition will be held at Prague from May 15th to September 15th in commemoration of the first trades exhibition held on the Continent in 1791.

Out of the 30,000,000 of subjects over whom Her Majesty now reigns as Queen of Great Britain, taken in round numbers, about 30,000 are said to be blind.

During the year 1890 the number of patients from the Department of St. Seine treated at the Pariter Institute was ninety-five, and not one of these ninety-five died.

Gas is sold in Plymouth by a private company at 42 cents per 1,000 feet, in Leeds at 44 cents per 1,000 feet by the local authority. In both places a good profit is made.

The first installation of electric trams in France is soon to take place at Marseilles,

where a street railway company is about to introduce the overhead system.

Pietro, one of the army of beggars in Rome, has just died and left 350,000. To another Roman beggar, who will now be able to emigrate to America and set up a fruitstand.

The cheapest railway fare in the world will be that on the Central London Railway, on which there will be three workmen's trains daily, the fare for six miles being but 2 cents.

The telephone between Paris and London having been so successful, it is proposed to connect Brussels and London. For that purpose a cable will be laid between Ostend and Dover.

Fifty thousand francs have recently been given to the American Charity fund in Paris. The management of the fund last year devoted 170,000 to sending penniless American citizens home.

Louis Kossuth was unable, on account of sickness, to attend the funeral of his friend Prince Napoleon. Through General Turr, however, he sent flowers and a laurel wreath to be laid on his grave.

Since the blocking of the Scheldt river by ice last winter, and the closing of the port of Antwerp in consequence, the proposal to make Ostend a large seaport town is being seriously considered.

The caricature which is said to have given personal offence to King Humbert is one in which a monkey figures with a crown on his head, and features bearing a resemblance to those of the King.

The latest drop-a-penny-in-the-slot contrivance in Europe is attached to the Paris café. The passenger puts his 10-centime piece into a slot and receives an insurance policy valuable for the time he remains in the cab.

According to Emperor Francis Joseph everything justifies the hope that peace will prevail in Europe for many years to come; and, therefore, Austria will devote herself to the development of industry and agriculture.

The Princess Clotilde has written to a Paris publisher stating that for the present, at least, "Plon-Plon's" political correspondence cannot be made public, as it contains matter compromising well-known persons still living.

The effect of the awful sight of the wreck of the *Utopia* at Gibraltar was most extraordinary. One man on the British war-ship, when the *Utopia* first sank, got so excited that he cried out: "Oh I can't stand this!" and jumped overboard.

A special committee of Bordeaux business men has been formed for the purpose of devising ways and means for a proposed railway across France to convey wares from the Atlantic to the Mediterranean without having to go around Gibraltar.

Europe is much amused at the tour of a still-walker, who is proceeding for a wager from Paris to Moscow. At one place a policeman tried to stop him, but he took three gigantic strides and was beyond the reach of the official. His stilts are a yard long.

Engineering skill and boldness are among the wonders of this age. Plans are now before the London County Council for the construction of a new tunnel under the Thames river which shall be 28 feet in diameter inside with a 16-foot roadway and two footways. The cost of construction is estimated at \$400 per linear foot.

The Grand Duke Michael, who has, by marrying the woman he wanted, offended the Czar, is thirty years of age. He was sent to England in 1889 as a hostage that he would marry a daughter of the Prince of Wales, and make a match. As soon as it was discovered in St. Petersburg that he had no such intention he fell into disfavor. The mother of his bride was a Russian woman, and, before morganatically marrying Duke Nicholas of Nassau secured a divorce from her first husband.

The great value of Scott's Emulsion of Pure Cod Liver Oil with Hypophosphites in Wasting Diseases is shown by the accompanying statement from D. C. Freeman, Sydney, Aust.:—"Having been a great sufferer from pulmonary attacks and gradually wasting away for the past two years, it affords me great pleasure to testify that the above medicine has given me great relief, and cheerfully recommend it to all suffering in a similar way to myself. In addition I would say that it is very pleasant to take." Any Chemist can supply it—A. S. Watson & Co. (Ld.), agents in Hongkong and China.—[Adv.]

To-day's Advertisements.

FOR SINGAPORE.

THE Steamship

"DECIMA,"

Captain Christensen, will be despatched for the above Port on SATURDAY, the 30th inst., at 3 p.m.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
GEO. R. STEVENS & Co.
Hongkong, 28th May, 1891. [776]

FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG AND CALCUTTA.

THE Steamship

"JAPAN,"

Captain J. G. Offlent, will be despatched for the above Ports on TUESDAY, the 2nd June, at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, 28th May, 1891. [779]

THE PEAK HOTEL AND TRADING COMPANY, LIMITED.

APPLICATIONS for 400 PREFERENCE SHARES, \$10 each, will be received up to the 2nd June, 1891, by the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

The Applications must be accompanied by Payment of \$10 per Share. Forms of application can be obtained at the Bank.

The Terms of the Preference Shares are as follows:—The Holders shall be entitled to a cumulative Preferential Dividend of 9 per cent. per annum.

In the event of the Company being wound up the surplus Assets of the Company to be applied to repaying to the Preference Shareholders the amount subscribed for such Preference Shares.

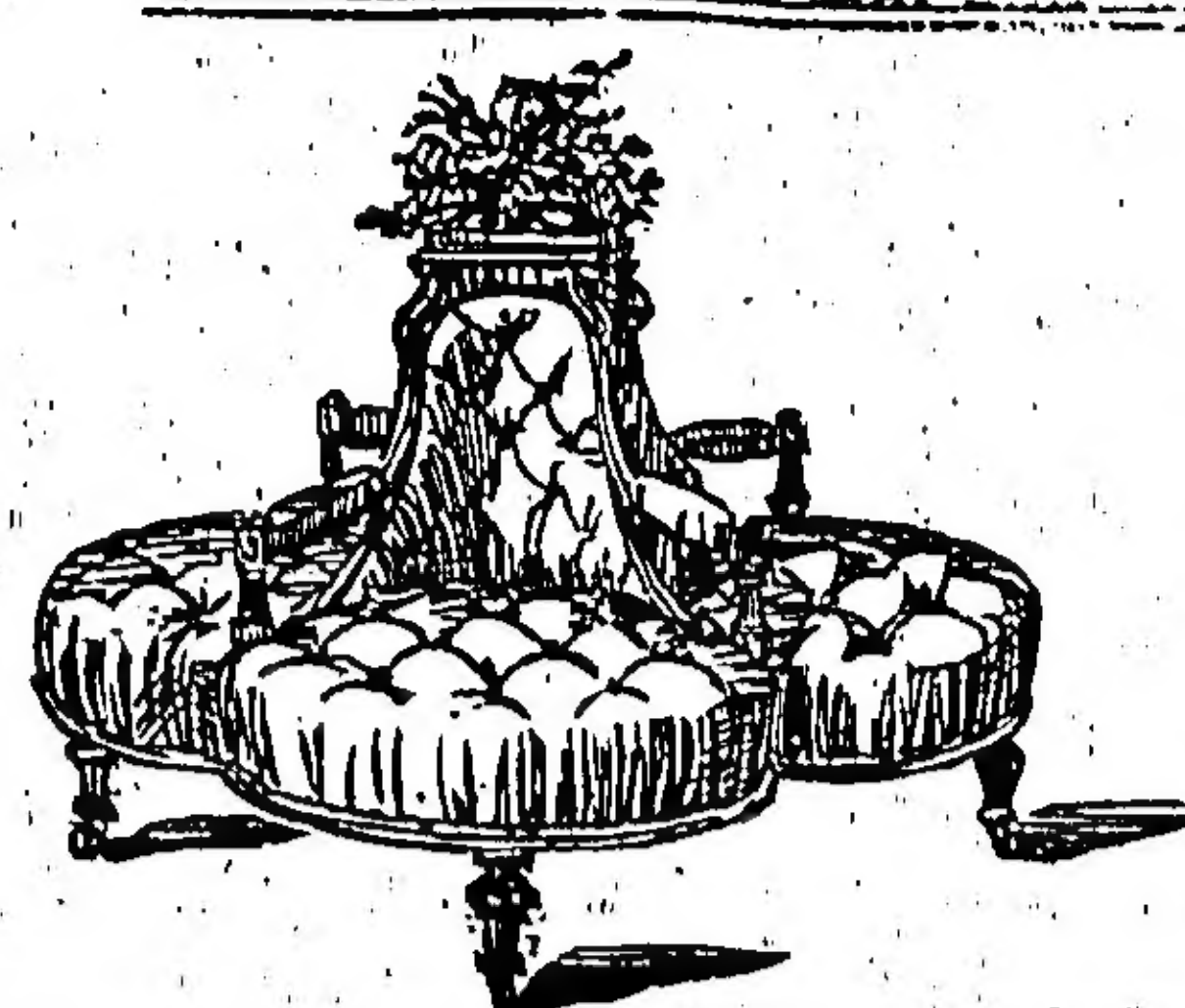
Preference Shareholders will find themselves in this position; that the Capital of the Company, so far as they are concerned, on which Dividend has to be earned is only \$100,000 *£* 100,000. Subscribers on which 61 per cent. interest has to be paid and \$4,100 Preference Shares, and they will have priority (after payment of the debentures) in the ordinary Shareholders of the Company in the distribution of the Assets should the Company be wound up. Of the above \$41,000 (or 4,100 Preference Shares) 400 Shares are now offered to the Public and to Shareholders.

JAMES ANDERSON, Secretary.
Hongkong, 28th May, 1891. [780]

Excursions.



HONGKONG TRADING CO., LD.



NOTICE.
UNPAID CALLS.

LABUK PLANTING COMPANY, LIMITED.

SHAREHOLDERS and, or HOLDERS of SCRIP who have not yet paid the FINAL CALL, due 15th January, last are requested to pay the same to the Undersigned, together with interest at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum from above date to date of payment, on or before 3rd June next.

Shares on which a Call or Calls are unpaid on 3rd June next will be dealt with in accordance with the Articles of Association.

TURNER & Co., General Managers.
Hongkong, 28th May, 1891. [778]

Intimations.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

A LIMITED number of Copies in Four Volumes of the ORDINANCES of the Colony complete to the end of 1887 can be obtained for Twenty-five Dollars the set on written application to the REFERENCE CLERK, Colonial Secretary's Office.

By Command,
W. M. DEANE, Acting Colonial Secretary.
Colonial Secretary's Office.
Hongkong, 23rd May, 1891. [764]

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given, that an EXTRA-ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Company will be held at the HONGKONG DISPENSARY, TO-MORROW, the 29th instant, at 3 p.m., to confirm the Special Resolution passed at the Extraordinary General Meeting held on the 14th inst.

T. H. TALBOT, Secretary.
Hongkong, 20th May, 1891. [748]

NOTICE.

THE SHAMEN HOTEL AND LAND COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE OFFICE of the above named Company has been temporarily REMOVED to No. 5, PEDDER'S HILL, where all communications respecting the Company's business should be addressed.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
R. FRASER-SMITH, Chairman.
Hongkong, 4th May, 1891. [765]

THE NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE SECOND CALL of TWO POUNDS (£2) Sterling per Share is Payable at the temporary Offices of the Bank, No. 7, PRAYS, on or before 20th June, 1891.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
WM. H. FORBES, Chairman.
Hongkong, 21st May, 1891. [756]

HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

NOTICE.

THE LONG RANGE HANDICAP CUP and SPOONS will be competed for next SATURDAY, the 30th instant, commencing at 3.15 p.m. Ranges 800 and 900 yards. Usual conditions.

A Launch will leave the P. & O. Pier at 2.45 p.m. to convey competitors.

FRANK COLLINS, Hon. Secretary.
Hongkong, 26th May, 1891. [65]

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

HONGKONG DERBY, 1892.

THE WEIGHTS for the above RACE will be weight for inches, not 10st. 10lb. as heretofore.

E. H. GORE-BOOTH, Clerk of the Course.
Hongkong, 17th March, 1891. [443]

SIEN TING,

SURGEON DENTIST,
No. 10, D'AGUILAR STREET.

TERMS VERY MODERATE.
Consultation free.
Hongkong, 18th March, 1891. [448]

NOTICE.

GRIFFITH'S PHOTOGRAPHIC ROOMS, 1, Ice House Road, are suitably lighted to produce all styles of Portraiture in any weather. CABINETS from \$6 a dozen.

CARTES DE VISITE from \$3 a dozen. LIFE SIZED BUSTS in Colour, or Black & White.

NEW VIEWS OF HONGKONG and the Coast Ports are always ready.
Hongkong, 24th September, 1891. [58]

W. S. MARTEN, ARTISTIC DECORATOR,

2, DUDELL STREET, HONGKONG.

Hongkong, 6th April, 1890. [32]

Commercial.

LATEST QUOTATIONS.
 Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, cum New Issue
 200 per cent. premium, nominal.
 Union Insurance Society of Canton—\$95 per
 share, buyers.
 China Traders' Insurance Company—\$63 per
 share, sellers.
 North China Insurance—Tis. 275 per share,
 buyers.
 Canton Insurance Company, Limited—\$115 per
 share, sellers.
 Yangtze Insurance Association—Tis. 70 per
 share, nominal.
 On Tai Insurance Company, Limited—Tis. 150
 per share, nominal.
 Hongkong Fire Insurance Company—\$308 per
 share, sellers.
 China Fire Insurance Company—\$821 per share,
 sellers.
 Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company—\$103
 per cent. premium, buyers.
 Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Co.—
 \$31 per share, sellers.
 China and Manila Steam Ship Company—120
 per share, sellers.
 Hongkong Gas Company—\$131 per share,
 sellers.
 Hongkong Hotel Company—\$120 per share,
 buyers.
 Hongkong Hotel Co.'s Six per cent. Debentures
 —\$501.
 Indo-China Steam Navigation Company, Limited
 —25 per cent. discount, buyers.
 Douglas Steamship Company—\$40 per share,
 sellers.
 China Sugar Refining Company, Limited—\$186
 per share, buyers.
 Luxon Sugar Refining Company, Limited—\$90
 per share, sellers.
 Hongkong Ice Company—\$90 per share, buyers.
 Hongkong and China Bakery Company, Limited
 —\$75 per share.
 Hongkong Dairy Farm Co., Limited—\$7 per
 share, sales.
 A. S. Watson & Co., Limited—\$30 per share,
 ex div., sales and buyers.
 Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 B—21 per cent.
 premium, buyers.
 Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 C—5 per cent.
 premium, buyers.
 Chinese Imperial Loan of 1886 E—14 per cent.
 premium.
 Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Company,
 Limited—\$125 per share, buyers.
 The Hongkong Steam Laundry Co., Limited—
 \$25 per share, nominal.
 Punjoni and Sungle Dua Samantap Mining Co.
 —\$5 per share, buyers.
 The Raub Gold Mining Co., Limited—80 cents
 per share, sales and buyers.
 Immort Mining Co., Limited—\$11 per share,
 ex div. and sellers.
 The Bismarck Gold Mining Co., Limited—\$7
 per share, sellers.
 Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown
 Company—\$81 per share, buyers.
 Tongkin Coal Mining Co.—\$400 per share,
 sellers.
 The Hongkong High-Level Tramway Co.,
 Limited—\$65 per share, buyers.
 The East Borneo Planting Co., Limited—\$10 per
 share, sellers.
 H. G. Brown & Co., Limited—\$51 per share,
 buyers.
 The Sengul Koyah Planting Co., Limited—\$131
 per share, buyers.
 Cruickshank & Co., Limited—\$35 per share,
 nominal.
 The Steam Launch Co., Limited—nominal.
 The Austin Arms Hotel and Building Company,
 Limited—\$13 per share, sellers.
 The China-Borneo Co., Limited—\$16 per share,
 sellers.
 The Hongkong Brick and Cement Co., Limited
 —\$12 per share, sellers.
 The Green Island Cement Co.—\$17 per share,
 sellers.
 The Hongkong Land Investment Co., Limited—
 \$80 per share, sellers.
 The Hongkong Electric Light Co., Limited—\$6
 per share, sellers.
 Geo. Fenwick & Co., Limited—\$14 per share,
 sales.
 The West Point Buildings Co., Limited—\$30
 per share, sellers.
 The Peak Hotel and Trading Co., Limited—\$8
 per share, sellers.
 The Labuk Planting Co., Limited—\$25 per
 share, sellers.
 The Lamag Planting Co., Limited—\$7 per share,
 buyers.
 The Jebu Mining and Trading Co., Limited—
 \$23 per share, sellers.
 The Selama Tin Mining Co., Limited—\$1 per
 share, sellers.
 The Shamen Hotel Co., Limited—nominal.
 The Kowloon Land Investment Co., Limited—
 \$15 per share, buyers.
 The Bank of China & Japan & the Straits Ld.—
 \$17 per share, sellers.
 The Bank of China & Japan & the Straits Ld.—
 Founders' shares, \$180 per share, sellers.
 The Hongkong Marine Ld.—nominal.
 London and Pacific Petroleum Co., Ld.—\$15,
 sellers.
 The National Bank of China, Ld.—30 per cent.
 div., sellers.
 The National Bank of China, Ld.—Founders'
 shares, \$425 per share, buyers.

EXCHANGE.
 ON LONDON—Bank, T. T. 3/11
 Bank Bills, on demand 3/11
 Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight 3/11
 Credits at 4 months' sight 3/11
 Documentary Bills, at 4 months' sight 3/11
 ON PARIS—Bank, T. T. 3/11
 Bank Bills, on demand 3/11
 Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight 3/11
 On India, T. T. 3/11
 On Demand 3/11
 ON SHANGHAI—
 Bank, T. T. 7/11
 Private, 10 days' sight 7/11

MAILS EXPECTED.
 THE AMERICAN MAIL.
 The P. M. S. S. Co.'s steamer *China*, with
 mails, &c., from San Francisco to the 7th ultimo,
 left Yokohama on the 24th instant and is due
 here on the 30th.

STEAMERS EXPECTED.
 The Ocean Steamship Co.'s steamer *Pail-
 nurus*, from Liverpool, left Singapore on the
 23rd instant and is due here on the 29th.
 The P. & O. S. N. Co.'s steamer *Brindisi*
 left Singapore on the 25th instant and is due
 here on the 31st.
 The steamer *Thermoda* left Singapore on the
 afternoon of the 27th instant and is due here on
 the 2nd proximo.
 The P. & O. S. N. Co.'s steamer *Thales* left
 Bombay on the 22nd instant at 2 p.m. and may
 be expected here on or about the 8th proximo.

HONGKONG TEMPERATURE.

(From Messrs. Geo. Palmer & Co.'s Register.)
 To-day.

Barometer	30.1
Thermometer	78.1
Thermometer	78.1
Thermometer	78.1
Thermometer	78.1
Thermometer	78.1
Thermometer	78.1
Thermometer	78.1
Thermometer	78.1
Thermometer	78.1
Thermometer	78.1

CHINA COAST METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER.

27th May, 1891.—At 4 p.m.

STATION.	Barometer	Thermometer	Wind	Direction	Force	State of Sky	Direction	Force	State of Sky
Amoy	30.1	78.1	SW	1	1	1	1	1	1
Amoy	30.1	78.1	SW	1	1	1	1	1	1
Amoy	30.1	78.1	SW	1	1	1	1	1	1
Amoy	30.1	78.1	SW	1	1	1	1	1	1
Amoy	30.1	78.1	SW	1	1	1	1	1	1
Amoy	30.1	78.1	SW	1	1	1	1	1	1
Amoy	30.1	78.1	SW	1	1	1	1	1	1
Amoy	30.1	78.1	SW	1	1	1	1	1	1
Amoy	30.1	78.1	SW	1	1	1	1	1	1
Amoy	30.1	78.1	SW	1	1	1	1	1	1

28th May, 1891.—At 10 a.m.

STATION.	Barometer	Thermometer	Wind	Direction	Force	State of Sky	Direction	Force	State of Sky
Amoy	30.1	78.1	SW	1	1	1	1	1	1
Amoy	30.1	78.1	SW	1	1	1	1	1	1
Amoy	30.1	78.1	SW	1	1	1	1	1	1
Amoy	30.1	78.1	SW	1	1	1	1	1	1
Amoy	30.1	78.1	SW	1	1	1	1	1	1
Amoy	30.1	78.1	SW	1	1	1	1	1	1
Amoy	30.1	78.1	SW	1	1	1	1	1	1
Amoy	30.1	78.1	SW	1	1	1	1	1	1
Amoy	30.1	78.1	SW	1	1	1	1	1	1
Amoy	30.1	78.1	SW	1	1	1	1	1	1

The barometer is falling. Gradients moderate for south-west
 winds. Weather cloudy, warm and fine. (Forecast at 10 a.m.)
 —Barometer reduced to level of the sea to inches, tenths and
 hundredths. —Thermometer in the shade in degrees, Fahrenheit.
 —Humidity in percentage of saturation. —Direction
 of the wind in two points. —Force of the wind according to
 Beaufort's scale. —State of the sky. —Rain, in inches, tenths
 and hundredths. —Direction of the rain. —Lightning,
 if observed. —Fog, if observed. —Fog, if observed. —Fog, if observed.
 Hongkong Observatory, 28th May, 1891.

Shipping.

ARRIVALS.
 KWONGSANG, British steamer, 939, T. R.
 Galeworthy, 27th May.—Whampoa 27th
 May, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
 FUSHUN, Chinese steamer, 1,504, A. Crow, 28th
 May.—Shanghai 24th May, General.—C.
 M. S. N. Co.
 DIAMANTE, British steamer, 514, G. A. Taylor,
 28th May.—Manila 25th May, General.—
 Russell & Co.
 MYRMIDON, British steamer, 1,315, R. Nelson,
 28th May.—Kobe 23rd May, General.—
 Butterfield & Swire.
 DELTA, French steamer, 717, Abbal, 28th May.
 —Haiphong 25th May, General.—Mess-
 geries Maritimes.
 SHANGHAI, British steamer, 2,044, F. N. Tildard,
 28th May.—Whampoa 28th May, General.
 —P. & O. S. N. Co.

CLEARANCES AT THE HARBOUR OFFICE.
 GLENARLY, British steamer, for Singapore, &c.
 FRIGGA, German steamer, for Singapore, &c.
 KONGKONG, British steamer, for Swatow, &c.
 ALONSOUS, British steamer, for Shanghai.
 NAMPO, British steamer, for Swatow, &c.
 FREY, Danish steamer, for Hallow, &c.
 SUNGKIANG, British steamer, for Swatow, &c.
 TAIYUAN, British steamer, for Manila, &c.
 BENALDER, British steamer, for Kobe.

DEPARTURES.
 May 27, *Taisang*, British str., for Swatow, &c.
 May 27, *Ly-moon*, British str., for Whampoa.
 May 27, *Amoy*, German str., for Whampoa.
 May 27, *Fidelle*, German str., for Whampoa.
 May 27, *Nippon*, German str., for Whampoa.
 May 28, *Deusungwa*, British steamer, for Swa-
 tow, &c.
 May 28, *Frigo*, German str., for Singapore.
 May 28, *Glenorchy*, British steamer, for Singa-
 pore, &c.
 May 28, *Triles*, German steamer, for Samarang.
 May 28, *Thames*, British str., for Singapore, &c.
 May 28, *Sungkiang*, British steamer, for Swa-
 tow, &c.
 May 28, *Alonsous*, British str., for Shanghai.

PASSENGERS—ARRIVALS.
 Per *Diamante*, str., from Manila.—Mr. and
 Mrs. R. Reyes, and 50 Chinese.
 Per *Fushun*, str., from Shanghai.—Mrs.
 Webster, and 177 Chinese.
 Per *Myrmidon*, str., from Kobe.—Mrs.
 Williams, Misses Williams (3), Mr. Edwards
 and Captain Morris.
DEPARTED.
 Per *Thames*, str., from Hongkong for Singa-
 pore.—Messrs. H. James, N. Tolomoff, and A.
 Vignier, for Penang.—Captain Cameron, for
 Colombo.—Miss Eastwhite, for Bombay.
 Messrs. G. Haubark and Esmal Wilce, for
 London.—Messrs. Cradock, Berntsen, W. J.
 Courtauld, W. B. Thompson, John Walker, G.
 A. Shering, and F. M. Willis, for Plymouth.
 Messrs. Woods, Williams, and Mitchell,
 from Shanghai for Penang.—1 Mahomedan.
 For London.—Messrs. J. Hodgkinson and
 Wood.

REPORTS.
 The Chinese steamship *Fushun* reports that
 she left Shanghai on the 24th instant. Had
 fine weather throughout.
 The British steamship *Diamante* reports that
 she left Manila on the 25th instant. Had light
 to moderate south-west breezes and fine weather
 throughout.

Post Office.

A MAIL WILL CLOSE.
 For Manila, Port Darwin, Thursday Island,
 Cooberville, Townsville, Brisbane, Sydney and
 Melbourne.—Per *Taiyuan* to-morrow, the 29th
 instant, at 8.30 a.m.
 For Swatow, Amoy, & Foochow.—Per *Namoo*
 to-morrow, the 29th instant, at 11.30 a.m.
 For Nagasaki.—Per *Taiyuan* to-morrow, the
 29th instant, at 11.30 a.m.
 For Kobe.—Per *Binalary* to-morrow, the 29th
 instant, at 3.30 p.m.

For Halphong.—Per *Actio* to-morrow, the
 29th instant, at 5.00 p.m.
 For Swatow, Singapore, and Bangkok.—Per
Mongkut on Saturday, the 30th instant, at 9.30
 a.m.
 For Nagasaki, Kobe, and Yokohama.—Per
Amoo on Saturday, the 30th instant, at 11.30
 a.m.
 For Straits and Calcutta.—Per *Kutang* on
 Saturday, the 30th instant, at 11.30 a.m.
 For Yokohama and San Francisco.—Per
Galle on Saturday, the 30th instant, at 0.30
 p.m.
 For Singapore.—Per *Detima* on Saturday, the
 30th instant, at 1.30 p.m.
 For Amoy and Manila.—Per *Diamante* on
 Saturday, the 30th instant, at 3.30 p.m.
 For Manila.—Per *Yikang* on Saturday, the
 30th instant, at 3.30 p.m.
 For Amoy and Manila.—Per *Don Juan* on
 Monday, the 1st June, at 3.30 p.m.
 For Shanghai, Nagasaki, Kobe, Yokohama,
 and Vancouver, B.C.—Per *Empress of Japan*
 on Tuesday, the 2nd June, at 11.30 a.m.
 For Europe, &c., Australia, India, &c. Madras,
 Calcutta, and Mauritius.—Per *Sydney* on Wed-
 nesday, the 3rd June, at 11.00 a.m.
 For Straits and Bombay.—Per *Bisagno* on
 Thursday, the 4th June, at 11.30 a.m.
 For Europe, &c., &c.—Per *Stuttgart* on Satur-
 day, the 6th June, at 5.00 p.m.

SHIPPING IN HONGKONG

STEAMERS.
 ACTIV, Danish steamer, 357, H. Hygam, 27th
 May.—Halphong, via Pakhoi, and Hallow
 28th May, General.—A. R. W. D. Mude.
 ANCONA, British steamer, 1,838, W. D. Mude,
 24th May.—Yokohama 16th May, Mails
 and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.
 AVOCHE, British steamer, 1,034, T. Rowin,
 24th May.—Saloon 20th May, Rice.—
 Melchers & Co.
 BENALDER, British steamer, 1,294, C. K.
 McIntosh, 25th May.—Saloon 21st May.
 Rice and Paddy.—Gibb, Livingston & Co.
 BENLARIO, British steamer, 1,456, Le Bouellier,
 26th May.—Whampoa 25th May, General.
 —Gibb, Livingston & Co.
 BISAGO, Italian steamer, 1,499, G. Orango, 27th
 May.—Bombay 9th May, and Singapore
 21st May, General.—Carlowitz & Co.
 CHILVORA, British steamer, 1,574, G. Payne,
 17th May.—Saloon 13th May, General.—
 Jardine, Matheson & Co.
 DECIMA, German steamer, 965, C. Christensen,
 24th May.—Moll 18th May, Coal.—Geo. R.
 Stevens & Co.
 EMPRESS OF JAPAN, British steamer, 3,003, Geo.
 A. Lee, R.N.R., 23rd May.—Liverpool 11th
 April, Naples 20th, Suez 27th, Colombo
 10th, Penang 25th, and Singapore 18th.
 General.—Doddwell, Carville & Co.
 FAME, British steamer, 117, Lieut. Wm. G.
 Comley, R.N.R.—Hongkong Government
 tender.
 FREY, Danish steamer, 397, L. C. Strand, 27th
 May.—Pakhoi 24th May, and Hallow 26th,
 General.—Arnhold, Karberg & Co.
 GALEIC, British steamer, 4,209, W. G. Pearne,
 18th May.—San Francisco 25th April, and
 Yokohama 13th May, Mails and General.
 —O. & O. S. N. Co.
 JAPAN, British steamer, 1,855, J. G. Ollent,
 13th May.—Calcutta 26th April, and Singa-
 pore 6th May, Opium and General.—D.
 Sassoon, Sons & Co.
 KUTSANG, British str., 1,491, W. H. Jackson,
 25th May.—Calcutta 9th May, Penang 16th,
 and Singapore 20th, General.—Jardine,
 Matheson & Co.
 LIBELLE, British steamer, 865, G. Grant, 26th
 May.—Saloon 22nd May, Rice.—E. C.
 May.
 LOO SON, British steamer, 1,020, A. Benson, 28th
 May.—Glasgow 4th April, Port Said 18th,
 Penang 10th May, and Singapore 13th,
 Coal.—Yuen Fat Hong.
 MARIE, German steamer, 704, A. Hundewadt,
 27th May.—Whampoa 27th May, General.
 —Wieler & Co.
 MONGKUT, British steamer, 859, G. Anderson,
 25th May.—Bangkok, &c. Koh-chang
 19th May, Rice and Teak Wood.—Yuen
 Fat Hong.
 NAMPO, British steamer, 863, Goddard, 26th
 May.—Foschoo 22nd May, Amoy 23rd,
 and Swatow 25th, General.—D. Laprak &
 Co.
 OSCARSHAL, Norwegian steamer, 1,800, Reich-
 born, 24th May.—Odessa, via Singapore
 17th May, General.—Order.
 PILOT FISH, British steamer, 161, A. Stopani,
 Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co.
 TAIYUAN, British steamer, 1,459, R. Nelson,
 25th May.—Kobe 19th May, Coals and
 General.—Butterfield & Swire.
 TETARTOS, German steamer, 1,450, W. Bretung,
 26th May.—Kutchinot 20th May, Coals.
 —Geo. R. Stevens & Co.
 TRIUMPH, German steamer, 574, J. Bruhn, 23rd
 May.—Pakhoi 24th May, and Hallow 26th,
 General.—Ed. Schellhass & Co.
 WUOTAN, German steamer, 1,016, A. Ott, 25th
 May.—Cardiff, via Singapore 18th May,
 Coal.—Wieler & Co.
 YIKSANG, British steamer, 887, W. H. Freeman,
 27th May.—Swatow 26th May, Ballast.—
 Jardine, Matheson & Co.

SAILING VESSELS.
 ADOLPH OBRI, American bark, 1,376, F. Carle-
 ton, 5th March.—New York 31st August,
 Kerosene Oil.—Reuter, Brockelmann & Co.
 ALTAIR, British bark, 599, J. Munro, 6th May.
 Tamsul 30th April, Coals.—Wieler & Co.
 AUSTRAL, British bark, 1,105, Geo. N. Dakin,
 20th May.—New York 15th Nov., Kerosene
 Oil.—Order.
 AUGUSTA, German bark, 473, Jensen, 26th May.
 —Bjana 5th May, Timber.—Wieler & Co.
 CAMBESUD, British ship, 1,107, R. Carland,
 19th May.—New York 28th Nov., Petroleum.
 —Russell & Co.
 COLUMBUS, German ship, 1,428, L. Haesloot,
 21st April.—Singapore 20th March, Timber.
 —Melchers & Co.
 DON JUAN, American bark, 708, B. Neilson,
 21st April.—Singapore 26th Feb., Timber.
 —Captain.
 ERLEKONG, Chinese bark, 457, Opium Examina-
 tion hulk, Stonecutters' Island.—Chinese
 Customs.
 HYDRA, Danish bark, 786, C. Christensen, 30th
 April.—Hamburg 5th December, General.—
 Carlowitz & Co.
 ISAAC REED, American ship, 1,480, F. D. Waldo,
 24th May.—New York 23rd Nov., Kerosene
 Oil.—Russell & Co.
 JOHN BAILEY, American bark, 700, F. P.
 Shepherd, 26th May.—Singapore 26th May,
 Timber.—Order.
 MCCLAUREN, American ship, 1,313, F. L. Oakes,
 28th April.—New York 30th November,
 Petroleum.—Order.
 OMEDA, British bark, 480, A. V. Brown, 23rd
 May.—Singapore 24th April, Timber.
 —Master.
 SARAI MAZAR, Persian schooner, 245, A.
 Munslig, 4th July.—Saloon 27th June,
 Rice.—Captain.
 ST. JAMES, American ship, 1,287, W. D. Burn-
 ham, 28th April.—Shanghai 21st April,
 Ballast.—Russell & Co.
 VELOCITY, British bark, 491, R. Martin, 26th
 May.—Hosolun 19th April, General.—
 Chinese.

Intimations.

HONGKONG CRICKET CLUB.

THE accommodation in the Pavilion having
 been found insufficient an EXTRA-
 ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING will be
 held on FRIDAY, the 5th June, at 5.30 p.m., in
 the Pavilion to consider the advisability or other-
 wise of extending the Building.
 ARTHUR K. TRAVERS,
 Hon. Secretary.
 Hongkong, 27th May, 1891. [774]

DENTISTRY.

FIRST CLASS WORKMANSHIP

MODERATE FEES.

M. R. WONG TAI-FONG,
 Surgeon Dentist,
 (Formerly articled Apprentice, and latterly
 assistant to Dr. ROGERS),
 HAS REMOVED
 TO
 THE MARINE HOUSE,
 QUEEN'S ROAD,
 (next to the Telegraph Companies).
 CONSULTATION FREE.
 Hongkong, 7th March, 1891. [395]

"FOR THE BLOOD IS THE LIFE"

CLARK'S

WORLD-FAMED

BLOOD MIXTURE

THE GREAT BLOOD PURIFIER AND

RESTORER.

FOR cleansing and clearing the blood from
 all impurities. It cannot be too highly
 recommended.

For Scrofula, Scurvy, Skin and Blood Diseases,
 Eczema, and Sores of all kinds, it is a never-
 failing and permanent cure.

It Cures Old Sores.
 Cures Ulcerated Sores on the Neck.
 Cures Ulcerated Sores on the Legs.
 Cures Blackheads, or Pimples on the Face.
 Cures Scoury Sores.
 Cures Cancerous Ulcers.
 Cures Blood and Skin Diseases.
 Cures Glandular Swellings.

It clears the blood from all impure matter.
 From whatever cause arising.

Clark's Blood Mixture is the only real
 Specific for Gout and Rheumatic pains, for it
 removes the cause from the blood and bones.

As this mixture is pleasant to the taste, and
 warranted free from anything injurious to the
 most delicate constitution of either sex, the
 Proprietors solicit sufferers to give it a trial to
 test its value.

THOUSANDS OF TESTIMONIALS.
 Clark's Blood Mixture is sold in Bottles 2s.
 6d. each, and in cases, containing six times the
 quantity, 11s.—sufficient to effect a permanent
 cure in the great majority of long standing cases,
 by all Chemists and Patent Medicine Vendors
 throughout the world. Proprietors, the Lincoln
 and Midland Counties Drug Company, Lincoln,
 England. Trade Mark—"Blood Mixture."

CAUTION.
 Purchasers of Clark's Blood Mixture should
 see that they get the genuine article. Worthless
 imitations are sometimes palmed off by un-
 principled vendors. The words "Lincoln and
 Midland Counties Drug Company, Lincoln,
 England," are engraved on the Government
 Stamp, and "Clark's World-famed Blood
 Mixture" blown in the Bottle, without which
 none are genuine.

**THE CHINA AND JAPAN TELEPHONE
 COMPANY, LIMITED.**

**LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS TO THE HONGKONG
 TELEPHONE EXCHANGE.**

41.—Adamson, Bell & Co.
 42.—Alice Memorial Hospital.
 43.—Anderson & G. C. Capt.
 44.—Do.
 45.—Arnhold, Karberg & Co.
 46.—Bellios & Co.
 47.—Bellios, E. R., Kingsclere.
 48.—Bellios, E. R., The Eyrle.
 49.—Butterfield and Swire.
 50.—Do.
 51.—Candle, Dr. J., Victoria Peak.
 52.—Central Station.
 53.—C. Borneo Co., Ltd., S. S. M., Bowrington.
 54.—China Mail.
 55.—China Sugar Refinery.
 56.—Do.
 57.—Do.
 58.—Carlowsitz & Co.
 59.—Cowie, Dr. Alex.
 60.—Dakin Bros. of China, Ltd.
 61.—Douglas Laprak & Co.
 62.—Doddwell, F.
 63.—E. A. & China Telegraph Co., Ltd.
 64.—Ena, N. N. J.
 65.—Foster, F. T. P.
 66.—Gibb, Livingston & Co.
 67.—Government Civil Hospital.
 68.—Gordon & Co., A. G.
 69.—Great Northern Telegraph Co., Ltd.
 70.—Hartigan, Dr. Wm., Queen's Road.
 71.—Candle, Dr. J., Queen's Road.
 72.—Cowie, Dr. Alex., Queen's Road.
 73.—Holliday, Wise & Co.
 74.—Holmes & Rody.
 75.—Ho Tung, Praya Central.
 76.—Do, Seymour Terrace.
 77.—Do, Bonham Strand.
 78.—Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd.
 79.—H. & W. Dock, Aberdeen.
 80.—The Hongkong Hotel, Public Telephone.
 81.—H. & K. W. & Godown Co., Ltd.
 82.—Hughes & Ena.
 83.—Hughes, E. J.
 84.—Imports and Exports Office.
 85.—Jardine, Matheson & Co., Kerosene Gdn.
 86.—Jordan, Dr. G. P.
 87.—Jordan, Dr. G. P., Residence.
 88.—Judd, W., Residence.
 89.—Linsland & Davis.
 90.—Mackintosh, E., Residence.
 91.—Millar, Marti y Millans.
 92.—Peak Hotel.
 93.—Peak Hotel & Trading Co., Ltd.
 94.—P. & O. S. N. Co.
 95.—Ray, E. C.
 96.—Russell & Co.
 97.—Sandford, A., Agent.
 98.—Sallors' Hall.
 99.—Scott, H., Residence.
 100.—Scottish Oriental S.S. Co., Ltd.
 1

Mail Supplement.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

N^o. 2853

THURSDAY, MAY 28, 1891.

SIX DOLLARS
PER QUARTER

BIRTHS.

At No. 7, Saunders' Compound, Shanghai, on the 21st May, the wife of THOMAS M. WILSON, of a son.

At Woodlands Villa East, Hongkong, on the 22nd May, the wife of C. H. ROGGE, of a daughter.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, MAY 28, 1891.

HONGKONG JUSTICE.

Justice is not stone-blind in Hongkong; the old lady is only cock-eyed. But this unfortunate obliquity of vision is much to be regretted, as it presses very hardly on innocent people who, through no fault of their own, get entangled in the meshes of the law, and become victims to official harpies and unsympathetic legal cormorants.

"I must say, your Worship, that more unjustifiable proceedings than those in connection with this case I have never heard of; and I am surprised that any Attorney-General or Crown Officer should have taken such action as has been shown in this matter." Such was the indignant expression of opinion given utterance to by Mr. CRESWY EWENS, solicitor for the defendant, when the trumped-up criminal charge brought against Mr. CHAN U FAI for making a false declaration as to the ownership of the new Canton river steamer *Tai-on*, hopelessly collapsed when heard before Mr. A. G. WISE at the Police Court on the 20th inst. We entirely agree with Mr. EWENS and submit that it is the duty of the Hongkong Government to order a thorough investigation in what looks remarkably like making a tool of the law and playing with justice. There was not a little of evidence to warrant the prosecution, and the Magistrate very properly discharged the defendant, remarking that the case had entirely broken down. His Worship would have been justified in going much further and saying a great deal more, but for reasons best known to himself he preserved a discreet silence. That, however, is no reason why we should allow this most scandalous persecution to pass into oblivion unnoticed, and we don't intend to.

Who instigated the criminal prosecution of Mr. CHAN U FAI, a very old Hongkong resident, who for a considerable time held a position as teacher in the Government Central School and is now a leading and influential member of the Chinese mercantile community? Was it Mr. HASTINGS, the Acting Harbour-master? If so, what were the alleged facts that came to that officer's knowledge which suggested the most improper interview on April 23rd? Who provided Mr. HASTINGS with those facts? This latter question ought to have been asked in cross-examination, but Mr. EWENS would appear to have overlooked its importance.

Was it the Registrar-General, and if so, why? What business was it of his? The Registrar-General was present at the interview in the Attorney-General's office on April 23rd, and interpreted the statement made by Mr. CHAN U FAI. Why should the Registrar-General have been present on such an occasion? He is not the Attorney-General's interpreter, and as a matter of fact Mr. CHAN U FAI speaks English almost as fluently as Mr. STEWART-LOCKHART. The Registrar-General's appearance in a little comedy that was evidently meant to end tragically for the managing owner of the steamship *Tai-on*, appears inexplicable from an ordinary point of view, and is certainly highly suggestive of what a dangerous element exists in this colony in the autocratic department presided over by an apparently thoroughly irresponsible officer. It appears to us that the Registrar-General's department, as at present constituted, is a scandalous anomaly, utterly out of keeping with constitutional government and which ought to be summarily abolished without delay. This ultra-bureaucratic hot-bed of mischief has caused more vexatious trouble with Chinese residents than is generally recognised, and as its existence serves no useful purpose beyond registering the births, deaths and marriages—a work which a couple of junior clerks would find no difficulty in satisfactorily carrying out—advocates of financial reform, as regards the exorbitant cost of our local administration, have here an opportunity of at once effecting a considerable economy and of getting rid of an office that is a standing menace to public freedom. One of the unofficial members should ask in Council what share the Registrar-General had in this most suspicious prosecution of the Chinese owners of the *Tai-on*.

What grounds had the Attorney-General for advising the arraignment at the Police Court on a criminal charge of Mr. CHAN U FAI? We must assume that Mr. W. M. GOODMAN knows something about the law and has some capacity for estimating the value of evidence; yet in this case it is as clear as day, judging from the published reports of the trial, that there was absolutely no evidence to justify such a prosecution. The Acting Crown Solicitor, who conducted the prosecution, was presumably acting under the orders of his chief, and he has our sympathy; but it would have been much better had he delayed appearing and as in the notorious charge of outrage on a child against a member of the Public Works Department last September, allowed an ordinary police officer to act as public prosecutor and bear the brunt of allowing the case to collapse.

And who will defray the costs of this iniquitous prosecution? Is it fair that Mr. CHAN U FAI, and the other owners of the *Tai-on*, should be compelled to pay for the ignorant and unpardonable bungling of lavishly paid Government officials, who apparently have yet to learn the rudiments of their own business? We are reluctantly compelled to admit our inability to recognise any justifiable grounds for placing these respectable Chinese merchants in the criminal dock, and as the question at issue is one of great public importance, it will be well if Mr. CHAN U FAI and his partner can see their way to compelling reparation by process of law. By so doing they will probably discover the source and secret of the gross and glaring injustice to which, under the aegis of the law of Hongkong, they have been subjected.

THE CZAREWITCH.

This atrocious attempt on the life of the CZAREWITCH by a native of Japan, while being a grievous occurrence from whatever point it is viewed, also contains mysterious elements requiring most careful elucidation. However much people may disagree with autocratic and despotic government, we are bound to remember that the young Prince represented that great European Power which has proved itself so exceptionally considerate to the Land of the Rising Sun in its efforts of regeneration. His Imperial Highness had been received with demonstrations of respect and good-will by all classes that were remarkable even in that land of generous hospitality, when all of a sudden—in the vicinity of its most sacred centre, where the influence of the "Venerable" reigns supreme, and in a locality usually noted for its good order and the warmth of its welcome to foreigners—a dastardly blow is delivered to the most distinguished and honored national guest who has yet visited that country. If we except the late General GRANT. Naturally enough the wave of indignation at the foul deed at this moment passing over Japan is extreme to a degree, but it is for those who have experience of that nation and the character of its people, more especially those at a distance, who are uninfluenced by the excitement of the event, to stand aside and endeavour to penetrate the mystery by carefully weighing every possible motive which could contribute towards bringing about a catastrophe so injurious to the nation's progress. So far as we can gather from the accounts of the affair which have yet reached us, the Press in Japan have concluded that it was a simple act of madness or fanaticism on the part of the policeman. This, however, in our opinion, remains to be substantiated, for if there be one fact more patent than another it is that in every similar deed of this nature which has happened in modern times in Japan, the motive for the act has been clearly discernible.

Upon a May morning some thirteen years ago the noblest of the noble amongst the band of patriots of young Japan—OKUMA—was assassinated, amidst a shower of may-blossoms thrown up as a signal, almost within sight of the Mikado's palace, the misguided youths who perpetrated the bloody deed walking calmly up to the palace gate and delivering their swords, claiming a death penalty for having, in their lamentable ignorance, killed a great statesman whom they considered a pro-foreigner advocate and a traitor to his country. For a similar reason IWAKURA narrowly escaped with his life the assassin's sword, but bore the marks of the foul deed to his untimely end. Most, the Minister of Education, who started at the outset in the pro-foreigner direction of actually advocating the anglicizing of the Japanese language, also met an untimely death at the assassin's hand owing to the same policy. OKUMA, the great liberal leader and Prime Minister whose lustre as a patriot and statesman will shine second only to that of OXLEY in the history of the regeneration of Dai Nippon, nearly lost his life and actually lost a limb only eighteen months ago for what was considered his pro-foreigner proclivities in connection with Treaty revision; and in fact we know not of a single instance in the modern history of Japan in which the motives influencing these crimes were not distinguishable or even apparent on the face of them, either by the confession of the culprits at their trials, or by other conclusive evidence. Therefore we may be excused in endeavouring to trace in hidden sources the motive inspiring this latest atrocious deed.

THE CZAREWITCH represented a Power which of all European Powers has shown itself the most friendly disposed towards Japan, and this was proved by the recent act of the CZAR in accepting the Japanese principle of Treaty revision without reserve. His Imperial Highness also represented a friendly neighboring Power whose commercial relations with Japan are of the highest importance to the nation. All this was known and fully appreciated by the country, as the native Press testifies. Besides, he was the distinguished and honored guest of the Emperor as well as of the nation. Bearing in mind these facts, how did it come to pass that, almost in the most sacred centre of Japan, where obedience and order are the rule, this innocent youth, representing influences fraught with so much benefit and consequences to the country, should have been subjected to such a gross violation of the very characteristics for which the Japanese of all peoples have been so greatly distinguished? Well, may Japan exclaim "my worst enemy might have spared me this," but we are led by the stream of our thoughts to weigh what

possible influences could have inspired a deed so dastardly and injurious to Japan. In making a searching inquiry into probabilities, are we wrong in surmising that possibly Chinese influence and Chinese sympathy may be found at the bottom of an act so altogether at variance with the Japanese character? Many things point in this direction—ancient rivalry, recent acts of a similar nature perpetrated in Korea to the detriment of Japan, jealousy of that country's growing influence with Russia, and a consistent but well disguised antipathy to Japan and the Japanese, envy at their progressive march, their superior navy, and numerous other points which can be readily called to mind. The fact of the CZAREWITCH devoting so much time to Japan was another element of jealousy, and what more easy way of embarrassing her despised enemy than arranging such a contempt? No one acquainted with China's history and who knows the national character will deny that Chinese officialdom is fully capable of such dastardly acts. In fact, it is notorious that outrages even more atrocious and dastardly have been perpetrated by some of the most prominent of China's living statesmen. Too cowardly to inspire such an act themselves in China, the opportunity for the discomfiture of her deadly enemy may have proved too great to be lost sight of. At all events, we trust that while the would-be murderer lives every effort will be made to discover the aiders and abettors in this great crime, and if it should be brought home to roost on Chinese shoulders, then there is some hope for the regeneration of China and the cleansing of the Augean stables at Peking, Tientsin, Canton and other places.

THE FORT CHARGES IN HONGKONG.

The following letter has been forwarded to us for publication by the Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce:—

SIR, The Committee of the Chamber of Commerce direct me to acknowledge receipt of the Acting Colonial Secretary's despatch No. 707 of 7th May, in which was enclosed a minute from His Excellency the Governor of 7th May, in which the Chamber of Commerce was asked to advise the Government on the subject of the proposed increase of the Fort charges in Hongkong, which was referred to the Chamber of Commerce on the 1st May, to the Colonial Secretary, which called the attention of the Government to certain statements made in an undelivered but published speech of His Excellency which appeared in the newspapers of this Colony on the 30th April.

His Excellency appears not to be clear as to the object of the Chamber's letter of 1st May.

That letter my Committee consider plainly indicated its object. His Excellency made certain statements in that speech, undelivered orally, which the Chamber considered were not in accordance with facts. If these statements had been allowed to pass unchallenged, it would have been reasonably assumed that they were unassailable because uncontroverted, and these misleading statements coming from such a source would have had a most injurious effect in determining the issues that His Excellency sought to establish in his printed speech. That the doubt of the correctness of the Governor's statements which existed with my Committee should immediately be set at rest, both for the good of the public and also for His Excellency, who might be led to form further false conclusions from the erroneous premises he had stated—appeared to be the only course that could be taken, even though it might trench upon His Excellency's leisure, which was limited owing to his hurried departure and ill health, which the Chamber regrets should have become so confirmed at this juncture as to necessitate his return to Europe. But the sooner error is dispelled the better. Having His Excellency's paragraphs in their order.

No. 1. I assume that my Committee in their letter of 1st May implied that vessels of foreign construction ought not to be taxed at all, but that junks should not escape taxation. By no process of reasoning can any portion of the Chamber's letter be contorted to bear such an interpretation. It should be clearly remembered that the statement of His Excellency to which this Chamber took exception was, that the cost of the Harbour Master's Establishment, Harbour Levees, Harbour Police, and the Observatory, involving an aggregate expenditure of some \$50,000 per annum, was "principally" borne out of the ordinary taxation of the Colony. Here no issue was raised by His Excellency as to the taxation of European and Chinese built vessels. The Chamber's letter was confined to proving that the ordinary taxation of the Colony was not used for the purposes of conducting Government establishments for the regulation of shipping as stated by His Excellency, but that, on the contrary, shipping not only paid its own way but added to the general revenues of the Colony. The addition to the revenue of the Harbour Master's Department from the collections derived from junks in 1890 was \$24,307. These native craft occupy the attention of the officials of that Department in many ways and necessitate the upkeep of five different establishments, besides Victoria, in the Island, for their almost exclusive use. Vessels of European construction do not require these five establishments. The Harbour Master's establishment is clearly entitled to be credited with all the revenue it collects in connection with the conduct of its special work. An implication seems to lie in His Excellency's minute, that junks pay more than they should do in comparison with other vessels. Are not the facts as follows? For this payment of \$22,397 per annum in 1890 against 3,500,000 tons of junks escaped the payment of light dues, as stated by His Excellency. Further, junks carried in 1890 23,473 native passengers without interference of any kind from, or payments to, the Harbour Master's Department. Junks also carried crews in and out numbering 87,738 men which also did not come under the revenue cognizance of the Harbour Master's Department. So that for the payment of \$22,397 per annum or 64 cents per ton, junks obtained these particular privileges free and many others connected with their way, while vessels of European construction were specially taxed for each item. A reference to the receipts of the Harbour Master's Department for 1890 will show these several items, paid by European constructed vessels, to be as follows:—

Emigration brokers.....\$ 1,400.00
Shipping seamen (21,852 men shipped and discharged).....10,850.00
Examination of masters.....2,135.00
Survey of steamers.....9,000.00
Registry fees.....875.00
Medical fees—emigration certificates.....1,500.00

The amount collected for stamps on Insurance policies in 1890 was \$7,661.80, but therein is included both Fire and Marine, which it appears proper to separate, but the Committee estimate that the revenue derived from proportion to place to revenue derived from Fire policies. It is worthy of note that vessels of Chinese construction did not contribute one cent towards this large addition of \$30,873.20 to the general revenue of the colony. It is not profitable to seek to determine the cost of each infinitesimal service that devolves upon the Government in connection with the conduct of the administration of public business. But a quantitative analysis is forced upon my Committee by the minute of His Excellency. The fact, however, remains, as stated in the Chamber's letter of 1st May, that the contributions to the revenue of the colony from shipping not only suffice to recoup all Government expenditure for the establishments connected with the supervision of that branch of the Colony's trade, but a large surplus goes therefrom to general revenue. His Excellency has not attempted to controvert the figures submitted by my Committee, but has contented himself by endeavouring to separate the incidence of taxation as applied to vessels of European and native construction. The various suggestions in the minute my Committee consider they have fully disposed of in their present remarks, while the application of the income derived from the certificates of registry for cargo boats can be more fairly claimed as belonging to the Harbour Master's Department than the Registrar-General's.

His Excellency has been pleased to make allusion in the concluding sentences of his minute to some points which appear to call for reply. The comparison between the burden of taxation on shipping in this Colony and Singapore opens a wide field for discussion; the situation and conditions of the two places are so dissimilar that it is hardly possible to institute a comparison that would be of value if attempted. One person's feelings for the latter rule the ordinary light dues levied in this Colony in

License steam launches.....422.50
Survey certificates steam launches.....995.00

Light dues collected in 1890, which include the extra levy for the Gap Rock for 9 months only.....72,028.33

which was contributed by 9,000,000 tons of shipping of European construction, or say 1,725 cents per ton against 3,500,000 tons junk traffic which contributed 1,024 per cent.

His Excellency's minute states: "If it be urged that junks pay no light dues, my reply is that relating to tonnage, trading junks pay far more than European vessels, even including the special Gap Rock tax about to be remitted. This statement is not borne out by the figures at the disposal of my Committee, as is clearly shown above. Native craft only pay about one half of what European do, though doubtless some statement exists on which His Excellency based these remarks."

Paragraph 3 points out that my Committee erroneously included in Harbour Master's Revenue the amount received for the 12 months 1890 for Registry of boats.....\$4,631.50
Registry cargo boats.....6,272.00
Cargo boats' certificates.....1,192.50

because this branch of the service was conducted by the Registrar-General's Department and therefore the income was applicable to that establishment. The Chamber's error was natural, for it appears anomalous that the income derived from the Harbour Department should be done by a branch of the service so unfitted, apparently, to conduct the operations required of it. The additional work, if thrown on the Harbour Master's Department, to grant these three forms of certificates, could doubtless be performed without further aid of any kind, or at the most trifling assistance only would be needed, by that branch. It appears the Registrar-General's establishment for 1890 cost the Colony \$20,329.9, while the receipts for these three certificates yielded that department \$12,095.40. Before the Chamber's letter, which called for work that is intimately allied to shipping and probably could be efficiently performed by trifling clerical assistance under the supervision of the Harbour Master's Department. In dealing with the question of other Government expenditure for the services of shipping, which is not classified specifically under that head, His Excellency is pleased to mention the cost of water taken by ships from the water works of the colony. Some apprehension of the actual facts is apparent in this statement. Before the completion of the Tyam works no water was taken from the Government Reservoirs for the use of shipping. The various purposes of water supplied vessels from their own private mains and other systems of collection, charging shipping for such water. During the recent drought, when these private sources dried up, Government permitted the owners of water boats to draw supplies from the Tyam reservoir, for which they charged these purveyors of water 20 cents per 1,000 gallons. The rate was fixed by the Government, so it is presumable that the revenues of the colony were simply protected when making the arrangement. Subsequently when the water famine became acute this privilege accorded to water boat owners was withdrawn. It is evident therefore that shipping does pay for all water taken from Government water works.

It is difficult and perhaps unprofitable to follow His Excellency in the minute analysis he suggests with regard to the various services performed by almost every public Department to shipping. Still the two minor incidents he mentions are capable of assessment. The cargo boat strike is well within the memory of my Committee. It arose from injudicious action on the part of the Government. His Excellency called to his aid, one afternoon, many members of the community, amongst them some of my Committee, to obtain their views on the situation. His Excellency adopted the suggestions that were then tendered and the following morning the strike had disappeared. The routine work incurred by "Harbour questions" and the considerable number of "Harbour papers" may perhaps be classified, for want of fuller statistics, amongst those minor duties that go to complement the official day's work. The Police statistics of crime show that for the 12 months of 1890 the inmates of all nationalities dealt with numbered 150, which doubtless include many that were not sailors.

It would not be unfair to set off against these various services rendered to shipping, by almost every public Department, the revenue derived from the following items which arise from and are incidental to our shipping: in 1890, they yielded:—

Bill of Lading stamps.....\$21,668.40
Charter parties stamps.....3,302.80
Do, copy stamps.....902.00
Marine Insurance Policy stamps, say 5000.00

\$30,873.20

The amount collected for stamps on Insurance policies in 1890 was \$7,661.80, but therein is included both Fire and Marine, which it appears proper to separate, but the Committee estimate that the revenue derived from proportion to place to revenue derived from Fire policies. It is worthy of note that vessels of Chinese construction did not contribute one cent towards this large addition of \$30,873.20 to the general revenue of the colony. It is not profitable to seek to determine the cost of each infinitesimal service that devolves upon the Government in connection with the conduct of the administration of public business. But a quantitative analysis is forced upon my Committee by the minute of His Excellency. The fact, however, remains, as stated in the Chamber's letter of 1st May, that the contributions to the revenue of the colony from shipping not only suffice to recoup all Government expenditure for the establishments connected with the supervision of that branch of the Colony's trade, but a large surplus goes therefrom to general revenue. His Excellency has not attempted to controvert the figures submitted by my Committee, but has contented himself by endeavouring to separate the incidence of taxation as applied to vessels of European and native construction. The various suggestions in the minute my Committee consider they have fully disposed of in their present remarks, while the application of the income derived from the certificates of registry for cargo boats can be more fairly claimed as belonging to the Harbour Master's Department than the Registrar-General's.

His Excellency has been pleased to make allusion in the concluding sentences of his minute to some points which appear to call for reply. The comparison between the burden of taxation on shipping in this Colony and Singapore opens a wide field for discussion; the situation and conditions of the two places are so dissimilar that it is hardly possible to institute a comparison that would be of value if attempted. One person's feelings for the latter rule the ordinary light dues levied in this Colony in

light dues, owing to the greater annual tonnage of shipping on which the tax is charged compared with that which passes through Singapore. And the cost of upkeep of their lighthouses may be considerably greater than ours. However prudent not to institute comparisons suggestive of levelling up to the taxation of Singapore.

His Excellency further directs attention to the tonnage dues levied at the ports of China, which in comparison with the rates charged in Hongkong it will upon large vessels, he states, "with a weight of 10 to 20 times greater than this Colony's levy." My Committee consider sufficient reflection was not given by His Excellency's advisers to the subject when this statement was permitted to be published. The Imperial Government of China's charge for tonnage dues is 62 Mexican cents per ton; the Colony's levy for light dues is 21 Mexican cents per ton. Superficially His Excellency's statement is borne out. Viewed more closely it will be found that the Chinese tonnage dues are only payable once every four months and during that period vessels can enter, as often as suits, any or all of the 21 Treaty ports of China, giving a range of about 3,144 miles of sea and river traffic. Along this distance the land is lighted in a manner that commands the admiration of the mariner, while all the various duties of the harbours in the 21 Treaty ports are conducted without additional charge to shipping. Compare this with the paltry similar service of this Colony with its present three lighthouses, or including the Gap Rock four and its stretch of a few miles of coast; for which the charge of 21 cents per ton has to be paid each time that the European constructed vessel enters the waters of the Colony. Instead of the Colony's tax, or an increase thereof, being inappreciable, it is not so. And further, my Committee would earnestly remind His Excellency that the "negligible quantity" of the risk of transfer from the Colony of its present lighthouse centre is not to be so lightly estimated as His Excellency appears to think. The Colony may retain the "centre" but the Government's power to levy additional taxation on shipping which in the opinion of the Committee would be unwise for general revenue purposes may depart. Hongkong lies within an almost measurable distance of China; a few minutes would permit the transfer of vessels from the colony's to China's waters. Vessels bound for the various ports of China, touching at Hongkong, could avoid the colony's waters entirely and yet might obtain all present advantages, except that they would be subject to the Imperial Maritime Customs and the danger of the colony's trade to its shores. It is hazardous to deem these risks "negligible quantities" when dealing with interests of such vast concern to this colony's welfare.

This Chamber has for many years urged the reduction of the charge for light dues to a point that shall simply suffice for the expenditure necessary for the maintenance of the lights; that revenue for general purposes should not be levied upon shipping under the guise of light dues; and latterly, in sympathy with the movement that is agitating most civilised countries, the Chamber has advocated their total abolition. To tax, for the payment of special services—the expenditure for which can be distinctly ascertained—in excess of what they cost, is an economic mistake, in addition to being inequitable. The total abolition of the dues would be a matter of high policy for this Colony and would simply repay any apparent additional burden that it might be necessary to impose on the inhabitants for general revenue purposes. The trade of this Colony is almost solely shipping. The possibility of the island becoming a manufacturing centre depends upon shipping. A daily intercourse with all parts of the world for the exchange of products is a first necessity to a manufacturing community. Every vessel that enters this harbour adds, inasmuch as it may be, to each inhabitant's benefit, in the shape of work for certain classes, in direct money payment to others. These gains far outweigh the extra impost that ratepayers might have to bear if light dues were abolished. The present levy of dues is direct, it is simple, and so commends itself to the Government and some of the community, who do not grasp the fact that our endeavour should be by every means in our power to attract, by almost compulsion, shipping to enter our port. Consider the inducement to shipping, "there is nothing to pay in the port of Hongkong." Our position, as it were, is that of shopkeepers having a certain commodity for sale, who take the advantage of the customer and charge an entrance fee to our customers; or it is wise to consider that our taxes would be triflingly increased by granting such facilities when it is well known that the concession will return us considerably more than it costs? There is hardly a branch of commerce or an inhabitant, however situated, that would not derive benefit from the attraction of additional tonnage to the Colony's waters.

In conclusion, my Committee desire me to express regret at the tone of His Excellency's minute. The Chamber has always accepted the unadvised position of advisers to the Government on all matters affecting the commerce of the Colony. No feelings of personality or partisanship have influenced the Committee at any time in the various communications tendered to the Government, which have hitherto been of the most distinctly courteous and pleasant character. But His Excellency's minute would lead us to deplore from the mutually good feeling that previously existed.

Sir, I have the honor to be,
Your most obedient servant,
F. HENDERSON,
Secretary.

Hongkong, 22nd May, 1891.
The Honourable W. M. DEANE, M.A., C.M.G.,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

ADMIRAL RICHARDS is paying Peking a visit, leaving Shanghai for Taku in the *Albatross* yesterday week.

THE Governor-General of Canton has raised some troops which are being daily drilled according to foreign tactics, says the *Hu-pao*.

SHARE MARKET settlements, notwithstanding spammed reports to make ends meet, have only been gradually and temporarily adjusted. As Mr. Samuel Weller, senior, sagely observed, we will "investigate."

AJ adjourned inquiry into the circumstances attending the outbreak of fire on the premises Nos. 421 and 423, Queens Road Central, a fortnight ago, was resumed on the 26th inst. by Mr. Wise, Acting Coroner, at the Police Court. There being no further evidence to produce the inquiry was closed and the prisoners released.

We hear that the Europeans residing in Chow-chow-foo, were somewhat frightened a few days ago owing to disturbances amongst the natives. Particulars not yet known.

ON Monday at the Peak Hospital, there died Capt. W. S. BRADLEY, of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs Service, at the early age of 30. The deceased was a son of the well-known Professor Bradley, of Aberdeen University, and was a popular and highly promising officer, who had a brilliant career before him.

A CORRESPONDENT writes of the *N. C. Daily News* from Chefoo, under date the 15th inst., that telegraphic news had been received there of the safety of the Chinese gun-vessel *Tai-an*, but no details were to hand concerning her whereabouts during the last ten days or the nature of the mishap—if any—that had befallen her.

ON the afternoon of the 25th inst. the Seamen's Temperance Society held their usual picnic, when a visit was paid to the silver mines on the island of Tam-chow. The *Day Spring* and another launch conveyed the merry party to the island upon which sports of various kinds were indulged in, and a most pleasant outing was enjoyed.

CONSEQUENT upon the retirement of Acting Chief Inspector Craddock, there is another general move in the Hongkong Police Force. Inspector Matheson, at present in charge of the Water Police, will now take the post of Acting Chief Inspector, and will be succeeded in the Water Police by Inspector Corcoran, from Shanghai. Inspector Butlin being removed to the latter district.

THE Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial Hospital begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donations to the funds of the Hospital:—

Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, Limited.....\$ 25
A Friend.....10
A. da Silva, Esq.....10
Messrs. Heurmann and Herbs.....5
Mrs. J. E. Tucker.....5
Lau Ying, Esq.....2

THE *Hu-pao* says:—The Chinese gentry and merchants are proposing to start a steam ferry Company between Hongkong and Canton. The capital is to be \$10,000, raised by shares. Several ferry-boats suitable for the purpose will be purchased or built. The China Merchants' Office in Canton will be the Company's temporary head-office, and there is to be a branch office in Hongkong. The name of the company is the Hongkong and Canton Steam Ferry-boat Company, Limited.

We have been favored with good news from Panjoni. Ten tons of stuff called the other week yielded 445 ounces of refined bullion. And Mr. Blaney writes that "over seven pounds of gold were got in a few hours by four men only, working at Gubau." When it is authoritatively announced that the Panjoni Co. has about 250 ounces of gold in stock and under order for shipment, the long-suffering shareholders may reasonably hope for the silver lining of the cloud that has been hanging over them for so long.

THE *Hu-pao* of the 18th inst. publishes additional particulars of the loss of the steamer *Albatross*, of the Mogul Line, which went ashore at Matsuyama, a small island about 220 miles from Kobe in the Inland Sea. She is said to be lying at such an angle that it is impossible for any one to stand on her decks, or for the extent of her injuries to be ascertained. She left Kobe on the 15th, in charge of an unlicensed pilot named W. Houghton, bound for New York. She has been engaged in the Japan trade for several years, and was a well-found vessel. The island she is wrecked on is said to be very precipitous, with about 100 yards of sandy beach.

BROKER on Panjoni's:—"You will be pleased to know that everything is progressing so satisfactorily but (sic) for the lack of water which prevents milling otherwise the output of gold and quartz from both Julla mine and your prospecting workings at Gubau is going a considerable way towards affording the material for returns against working expenses." It is very kind of Becker to tell us all this, but if that no doubt excellent person would mind his own business it would be very much more to the purpose. There has already been too much rumour and gasbag twaddle in the history of the Panjoni Company.

DESCENDANTS of Lavater, and students of such books as "Sartor Resartus" should find ample scope for the exercise of their talents in the streets of Hongkong at the present time. It has always been an acknowledged fact that our community contains some of the most extraordinary specimens of humanity that are to be found on this terrestrial sphere, but recently it has been considerably augmented by the influx of a crowd of sightseers for whose arrival here that floating palace the *Empress of Japan* is responsible. These good folk crowd the highways and the byways of Hongkong, and the interest that they evince in local items is equalled by the curiosity that they themselves excite in the native breast. Their charter apparently gives them extraordinary privileges in the line of dress—many promulge round in fearful and wonderful caricatures on 19th century apparel, and not a few without even a *palat*, which somewhat necessary garment carried under the arm, should there be one to spare, if not around the waist. Residents who take an interest in natural history should not walk abroad just now without a gun—the opportunities are too good to be missed.

THERE was a scene of great excitement in the Supreme Court at Singapore, a few days ago. A policeman named Gags Singh, with a woman Sama, was charged with abducting a girl from her mother's house. The prisoner had paid \$100 to the mother of the girl to get her as his wife and it was alleged that she had helped him in the abduction. A large number of the old convict population of Singapore people transported to the Straits in the old East India days, the *convict* *brothers* of the Malays, were present in the Court. The mother of the girl herself said that she had come there forty years ago as a convict and was a murderer. The jury had some difficulty in coming to an agreement and after a quarter of an hour returned with a unanimous verdict of not guilty against the woman, but could not agree about man. After some questions had been answered, they retired again and eventually found the man guilty of abduction by a majority, saying that he was driven to do it because the mother wanted to keep his money. The judge agreed and sentenced him to one day's imprisonment. The rest that came from the crowded Court as the prisoner was released was something to be remembered.

CANTON INSURANCE OFFICE.

An extraordinary general meeting of the Canton Insurance Office, Ltd., was held at noon to-day (21st inst.) for the purpose of considering the following resolution:

That Clause No. 121 be struck out and expunged from the Articles of Association of this Company, and do cease to form portion of the Articles of this Company from the 5th day of June, 1891, and that the following Clause be substituted instead thereof and do form portion of the Articles of Association of the Company from the last mentioned day and be numbered 121.

121. After payment of the interest mentioned in the immediately preceding Article, the General Agents may, with the sanction of the Consulting Committee, from time to time out of the annual profits of the Company add to the Reserve Fund (which now amounts to \$500,000) such sum as they shall think fit, and may, with such sanction as aforesaid, from time to time pay the whole or any part of the annual interest of the Reserve Fund to such persons as shall, on a date to be annually determined by the General Agents, with such sanction as aforesaid, be Shareholders, such persons to be entitled to participate in such last mentioned interest rateably and in proportion to the number of shares held by them respectively. If, after payment of the interest mentioned in the immediately preceding Article and of the additions (if any) to the Reserve Fund by this Article authorised to be made, there shall remain any undistributed annual profits, then and in that event the General Agents may, with such sanction as aforesaid, from time to time pay the same by way of bonus to Contributors (whether Shareholders or not) of premium, and in such proportions as the General Agents with such sanction as aforesaid shall determine, and if after all such payments as aforesaid, there shall still remain any undistributed annual profits, then and in that event the General Agents may from time to time pay or apply the same in such manner as they with such sanction as aforesaid shall think best in the interests of the Company.

The Hon. J. J. Keswick presided, and there were present the Hon. P. Ryrie, Messrs. D. Clifton, D. R. Sassoon, W. H. Bay, H. W. Dick, C. S. Sharr, J. Barton, Bell, Irving, Saunders, Lewis, Dickson, Byrnam, Ross, Gresson, Nicol, Burdett, and others, representing over 3,000 shares.

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen, you have heard the notice calling this meeting read, and I may say that the advertisement explains in a great measure the object we have before us in assembling to-day, so that it is not necessary that I should say much by way of supplement to the resolution, of which due notice has been given. I need hardly say that I expect shareholders will be ready to concur in the views of the Consulting Committee as to the being desirable that the table should acquire a larger Reserve Fund than the provisions of the Articles of Association permit. We are at present restricted to \$500,000—a maximum which we have already reached and it is therefore proposed that we should eliminate Article No. 121 and substitute for it the one which you will find in a parallel column in the papers in your hands, and which we are of opinion meets the case fully. Instead of being restricted as we are by the present article, the proposed substitute will give us liberty to deal with the profits of each year as may seem best for the interests of the office, and you may rest assured that our chief care in the future, as in the past, will be not only to safeguard the interests of shareholders, but also of those friends of the office whose contributions have added so materially to its prosperity. Before putting the resolution I will be pleased to reply to any questions that may be asked.

There was no discussion, and the resolution was seconded by Mr. Ryrie passed unanimously. This concluded the business of the meeting.

LIFE IN VICTORIA GAOL.

At the Magistrate's on the 20th inst. before Mr. A. G. Wise, the indolgent summons against J. L. Wood, turnkey, for having introduced liquor into the Gaol, and having given a cigar to a prisoner named John Gray, was called. Mr. Stokes, Crown Solicitor, prosecuted, on behalf of Mr. A. M. Thomson, Acting Superintendent of Victoria Gaol, and Mr. Caldwell, of Messrs. Caldwell and Wilkinson, defended.

Upon the defendant's name being called he did not appear.

His Worship said he could not go on with the case, as the defendant had not put in an appearance. Did Mr. Stokes ask for a warrant? Mr. Stokes asked if sentence could not be passed.

His Worship said he could give Wood six months' hard labour, but how was he going to undergo the sentence if he had left the Colony? Mr. Stokes then applied for a warrant for Wood's arrest.

J. Quinn, head-turnkey, Victoria Gaol, upon remand, came up for sentence for introducing spirituous liquors into the Gaol to be used by prisoners, on the 25th December, 1890.—Mr. Stokes prosecuted.

His Worship asked Mr. Stokes if he had any more evidence to produce, and was answered in the negative.

The defendant said he had no further statement to make in his defence.

His Worship, addressing the defendant, said he thought that the amount of bail he fixed on the last occasion was sufficient to show that he considered the charge amply proved. He would consider the time Quinn had been in the Government service and the fact of his having "taken to be a head-turnkey. Under the Ordinance he was liable to a fine of £20 or six months' imprisonment, or both. However he would take into consideration the length of the defendant's service, and would impose a fine of £10.

THE CENSUS.

The taking of the census was commenced to-day (May 21st). It is ten years since it was last taken in 1881, when the returns showed the following population:—Europeans and Americans 3,040; mixed blood, 968; temporary residents 188; Chinese in European employ 5,599; Chinese residing in Victoria 65,865; ditto in villages 16,661; total population in Victoria harbour 16,687; ditto elsewhere, 12,502; prisoners 612; total 152,858, as compared with 135,504 in 1876; 118,670 in 1872; and 119,407 in 1870-71. This time it is estimated that the figures will reach 200,000, about one-fourth more papers being distributed. Constables left them at European addresses; those intended for the Chinese were given out by the district watchmen, and a few men specially engaged for the occasion by the Registrar-General's department. The collecting began to-day, and will probably be finished about next week-end. The returns were out in two months, ten years ago, and probably about the same period will elapse before their publication this time, as no extra clerks have been engaged by the Government, and the Registrar-General's people have to do it and their own work as well—without extra pay.

THE "TAI-ON" CASE.

CASE DISMISSED.

Chau U Fal and Ho Ying Ming, of the Ping Ki ship, Proa Central, were summoned before the Magistrate, on the 20th inst., with a declaration as to the ownership of the Canton river-steamship *Tai-on*, contrary to 18 and 19 Vic. sec. 61, on the 6th April last. Mr. Stokes, Acting Crown Solicitor, prosecuted, and Mr. Ewens, of Messrs. Ewens and Reece, defended the first, and Mr. Caldwell, of Messrs. Caldwell and Wilkinson, the second defendant.

Mr. Stokes said he proposed to take the cases separately, and would take the case against Chau U Fal first. He then read the charge.

Mr. Ewens submitted that the Court had no jurisdiction to try who the owner of the ship was, and that it ought to be a civil case.

Mr. Stokes said the defendant was charged with having made a false declaration; the question was not whether the defendant was the owner or not.

Comd. W. C. Hastings, R.N., Acting Harbour Master, said that by virtue of his appointment was the registrar of shipping. The declaration produced was made before him on the 6th April by the defendant. In consequence of certain facts he had heard, he had an interview with the defendant on the 23rd April. He then made a statement to the effect that he was one of the owners of the *Tai-on*. There were seven partners, five or six of whom lived in Hongkong; the others lived in Canton. The ship was worth \$80,000. He owned 32/64 of the ship, and at that time there had been no division of profits; and should any liability be incurred all the shareholders would bear a like proportion. The statement was signed by Mr. J. H. Stewart-Lockhart, and dated April 23rd, 1891. The interview took place in the Registrar-General's office Mr. Stewart-Lockhart acted as interpreter. The defendant declared to the statement.

Cross-examined—The defendant went to the Attorney-General's office. He was asked to go there by witness, as he thought there was something wrong about his naturalization papers. Witness asked him to tell him all he knew about that matter. He was not cautioned in any way about incriminating himself. The defendant spoke in Chinese, and afterwards signed the statement. All the conversation that took place was in Chinese and he took the answers to his questions down in English. They were read over to him in Chinese, which was translated by Mr. Stewart-Lockhart.

Mr. J. H. Stewart-Lockhart, Registrar-General said that he was present on April 23rd, when the defendant made a statement. Witness interpreted the interview. The statement was afterwards read over to him and signed.

Cross-examined—The defendant was present at the instance of the Harbour-master. Witness did not put any questions to him on his own account; he merely acted as interpreter.

Chan Wan Chi said that he was one of the masters of the Kwong Hip Loong ship, No. 44, Praya East. The ship was a boat-building and machine shop. He had an entry in his book headed the Wing Tai ship. The entry commenced "this ship was built on the 15th day of the 19th day, 8th moon, 15th year Kwang-su, (September 13th, 1886) \$30,000 as earnest money for the boat *Tai-on*." All the entries were for that boat for work done. The page was headed the Wing Tai ship. He had no share in the *Tai-on* steamer; he formerly had. The interest he had was a \$2,000 or more share. He never had a \$10,000 interest in the steamer. Through him persons had obtained that amount of shares. Altogether all shares got through him amounted to \$30,000. The amount swelled from \$10,000 to \$30,000, because they found out that they had not got sufficient capital. The increase took place during about twelve months. There was scrip issued for the shares. He obtained shares for Kwok Wong Fung, the members belonged to Canton; Wai On Fong, Hing Fong and Wing Ip Fong, all of Canton. He did not deal direct with the Hong, but through friends. Formerly these friends were shareholders. Fun Chi Kung was one of those friends, also Cheung Wing Ip, who lived at Canton. U Fong Shang also had a share. All the shares had since been sold to the defendant either on the 4th or 6th April. Witness said his own shares on the 3rd or 4th April for \$2,000 or more. He sold them at a ten per cent discount. All the rest of the shares were sold at the same price. It was an out and out sale. He then ceased to have any interest in the ship, but as he was engaged by his firm he must still inspect her from time to time. He was sure of the date of the selling of his shares. He remembered because he had to sign a paper. He built the boat and received money from intending subscribers. He did tell Mr. Osmond that he had an interest amounting to \$10,000 in the steamer *Tai-on* on the 3rd April. He also said his object in becoming naturalized was so that he could fly the British flag, but not with reference to the *Tai-on* steamer. He did say that if the vessel should become his property it would be a good thing to be naturalized.

Cross-examined—He got subscriptions for about \$30,000. The defendant was now owner of them. He held half the steamer. He held the ship, which was transferred to him, on the 3rd or 4th April.

U Fong Shang said that he knew the steamer *Tai-on*. He formerly possessed \$2,000 worth of shares, but the shares got through him amounted to \$34,000. He, and the last witness were recognized as the originators of the venture, and each held a half. He got money from Canton and elsewhere. Witness said he sold the share to Ho Ying Ming, he gave him scrip. Witness was formerly managing partner of the Wing Tai ship; now he was only employed there. He ceased to be master of the Wing Tai on the 2nd or 3rd April. On the 7th April he never told Mr. Osmond that he had a \$10,000 interest in the steamer; neither did he wish to become naturalized so as to fly the British flag.

Cross-examined—He knew Chan U Fal. He had not bought any shares from witness. He had bought his shares through Chan Wan Chi. C. Osmond said he was clerk in the Registrar-General's office. He remembered the last witness coming to him. The writing shown him was the substance of what he had said. The writing shown him was also the substance of what Chan Wan Chi said.

There was no further evidence.

His Worship said he would not call upon Mr. Ewens because he considered the charge had entirely broken down.

Mr. Stokes submitted that there was a case, as facts given in evidence were quite contradictory to the statements he wished to put in.

His Worship said that as far as the evidence went, it went to show that the defendant's declaration on April 6th was right and there was nothing to show that the declaration made at the Harbour Office was false. The case would be dismissed.

Mr. Stokes then withdrew the charge against the second defendant, as he said he had only the same evidence to produce.

THE ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION ON THE CAREWITCH.

The following account of the attack upon the *Carewitch* is given in the *Shanghai Shamoo*, published in Shanghai. At half-past one o'clock on the 11th instant, the *Carewitch* visited the residence of Mr. Tsuda Iwanoro, No. 5, Kiamatse, Otsu, in a jinnicksha. When His Highness was about to enter the premises a policeman named Tsuda Sanzo, standing at the northern side of the street or entrance, on duty, suddenly approached His Highness, with sword drawn, struck at his head, cutting off a portion of the rim of his hat and inflicting an ugly wound on the side of the head above the ear. The *Carewitch* immediately jumped out of the jinnicksha from the left side, and took refuge in an adjoining house. At the same time Prince George of Greece struck the policeman with a bamboo cane. The policeman when attempting to escape was clutched by the legs and thrown down by the jinnicksha man who had been drawing the *Carewitch*. The jinnicksha man then got hold of the sword worn by the policeman and inflicted two severe wounds, one on the back of the head and another in the back, the *Carewitch* was falling from the effects of these wounds, Inspector Kinoura, one of those who had been leading the procession, jumped and arrested the attempted assassin and handcuffed him. The occurrence lasted but a moment and all those in attendance on His Imperial Highness were taken by surprise. A bed was prepared for the *Carewitch* in the house of Nagai Chosuke, No. 15, of the same street. The *Carewitch* however told them there was no need to prepare a bed, he seated himself at the front of the shop and the wound was then inspected and bandaged. During the time that the wound was being attended to the *Carewitch* maintained his ordinary appearance and continued smoking his cigar. On the completion of the dressing His Imperial Highness was taken in jinnicksha, accompanied by Prince George of Greece and others on foot to the Shiga Kencho, arriving there about 2 o'clock, escorted by a portion of the Ninth Regiment. All necessary preparations for the comfort of the Imperial guest were made, and communication by telegraph was made to the Japanese Imperial Household Department at Tokio, and also to other quarters. The chiefs of the three hospitals, Osaka, Kioto and Kobe were summoned, and at half-past three it was decided that the *Carewitch* should be removed to the Hotel at Kioto, and he therefore left the Shiga Kencho going to the Railway Station in a jinnicksha, escorted as before, while the streets on both sides were lined by the Ninth Regiment, the policeman, Iwata Sanzo, aged 37, has a wife and 3 children. It is said that some years ago he was insane. The wound inflicted on his head by the jinnicksha man is 4 inches long and 2 inches deep, and that in the back 3 inches long and seven tenths of an inch deep. He is now in prison, and an enquiry into the matter cannot be held until he is able to speak. The wound on the head of the *Carewitch* is 3 inches long and two tenths of an inch deep; it is not considered a dangerous wound.

THE WUHU RIOTS.

By the latest intelligence from Wuhu, says the *Shanghai Mercury* of May 16th, the few rounds of blank cartridge fired on the rioters by the Governor of Anhwei appear to have had the effect of entirely quelling the disturbance. When the *W. Cors de Vries*, which arrived at Shanghai this afternoon, left Wuhu at 10 a.m. yesterday, everything was then perfectly quiet, and the Chinese warships, which had been so much assistance, had left the port, Shen Ping Cheng expressing himself satisfied that no further outbreak was to be feared. Six hundred Chinese soldiers are quartered in the town from different places, the *Cors de Vries* having brought up one hundred from Nanking; yesterday morning Mr. Woodruff, the Commissioner of Customs, walked down from his residence to the slightest indignity on the part of the Chinese, and the *Cors de Vries*, which like the other ships arriving at the port since the outbreak, went alongside the refuge bulk, were able to walk freely about the Settlement and see for themselves the damage done without the Chinese attempting to be in any way unfriendly, though the streets are reported to be still thronged with excited people. The Mission premises are a heap of ruins, and so are the houses and property of the priests, where the Customs officials principally resided. Much indignation is expressed in the conduct of the officials in charge of the Telegraphs, who refused to wire down intelligence to Shanghai until they had privately telegraphed to the head of the department here for permission. When the *Cors de Vries* left, the Customs officials had resumed their ordinary work, though in the Custom House, the rifles were still stacked ready for use at a moment's notice, and the pickets of Chinese soldiers patrolling the streets, blowing whistles and firing an occasional blank shot to frighten the inhabitants, still gave evidence that the fire was smouldering. On her way down to Shanghai the *Cors de Vries* passed the *Incantant*, which is still anxiously looked for at Wuhu, about 18 miles beyond Nanking. She saw no sign of the *Zinnit*.

The Governor of Anhwei had just left Nanking with the three Chinese men-of-war, when intelligence arrived from the Taung-ki Yamen for these vessels to proceed at once to the disturbed port. Though there were no signs of immediate fresh outbreak of the riots at Wuhu when the *Cors de Vries* left, no one can tell what may happen, and it is a crying shame that up to yesterday there was no sign of a foreign war-vessel there for the protection of the residents and it will be a long time before the disgraceful neglect of the startling incidents of Tuesday and Wednesday is forgotten.

The following account of the trouble have been supplied to us by one of the French fathers, who is quite certain that the Wuhu trouble has been premeditated. It was a regular attack against all foreigners. On Sunday night the Customs' officials were already notified of trouble brewing against *all foreigners*, a number of whom went aloft on board the hulks in the river. On Monday there were general rumours of a hateful nature being propagated from the secret societies against foreigners without exception, and their cowardice of the Chinese of the natives of China (*Yang-yang-tai*). On Monday again we learned from a sure source of information that the hatred of the savage rabble was largely directed not alone against missionaries, but also against the foreign Customs, the straightforwardness and honesty of whose officers goes against the grain of the majority of the low, vulgar rabble. Tuesday showed distinctly that the movement was well planned and cleverly prepared, else it would have been impossible to direct such a large mob in unison, as really was the case. Therefore there is not the slightest doubt that the whole affair has been premeditated.

All the Missionaries' worldly belongings were destroyed, burned, or stolen. There were quarters for about thirty fathers, a fine library, and furniture, besides, of course, large supplies of stores and provisions not only for the local Mission but for the missions farther inland as well. There were also schools for boys, a chapel, servants' quarters and other necessary buildings and outbuildings. What the fire could not destroy, the vandals certainly otherwise managed to do away with. The hospital attached to the Mission, for the benefit of the natives, has been destroyed too.

It is to be regretted that the local Magistrate, even after being pressed by the British Consul,

did next to nothing to take steps for the protection of the endangered people. On Sunday night two Christian women were taken up in a most brutal manner and dragged before the Police Magistrate, and were kept all night at the Cheb-sie's women. They were accused of having deprived two little children of the power of speech by the exercise of witchcraft, but the women had to be liberated, because the charge could not be proved.

The next day a woman came and wanted her son from the orphanage, pretending they had robbed her of her child; but the charge was shown to be quite a trumped-up one; nevertheless quite a big crowd, of desperate and threatening appearance, kept hanging round the place all day. It is remarkable that a few days previous to this outbreak an abortive attempt had been made against the Roman Catholic orphanage at Yangchow, and requests through the Consul had to be made repeatedly to the British before protection was afforded.

In Wuhu it was at the very last moment that the three foreign resident fathers succeeded in saving themselves; when the incensed and excited mob invaded the premises the missionaries made their escape and embarked in a native junk and proceeded to Chinkiang.

THE HANKOW TEA MARKET.

The correspondent of the N. C. Daily News writes:—

Since opening for same number of days—			
1891.	Arrivals.	Settlements.	Stock.
Hankow tea.....	71,914	39,149	34,765
Kiukiang.....	47,752	17,785	24,967
Total	114,666	56,934	57,732

AGAINST—			
1890.	1-chests.	2-chests.	3-chests.
Hankow tea.....	110,950	50,664	60,266
Kiukiang.....	115,539	54,753	61,086
Total	226,489	105,417	121,352

Same number of head chops arrived represent—			
1891.	chops.	1-chests.	1890.
Hankow tea.....	157	71,914	103,001
Kiukiang.....	748	47,752	52,712
Total	905	114,666	155,713

Prices are inclined to fall at the close, late arrivals from many districts show talent of tar, and parcels with that character are entirely neglected. A small parcel of choicest Ningchow is said to have been settled by a Russian firm at Ts. 100 per picul, this however is not confirmed, yet. Pure Opopops and Oonams continue to be settled at Ts. 30 to Ts. 60 for the Russian market, and these are the dearest intrinsic value purchased yet. Shams, which are good at Ts. 19 to Ts. 24, and fine Keenams at Ts. 15 to Ts. 18, show the best value, but rates all round are too high to last. The steamer *Mayone* has not yet departed, scarcely anything having yet been done for the English market.

May 11th.			
1891.	1-chests.	2-chests.	1890.
Hankow Tea 75,086	1-chests.	219,703	1-chests.
Kiukiang " 100,401	"	17,757	"
185,487		397,376	
Settlements:—			
Hankow Tea 56,565	1-chests.	147,435	1-chests.
Kiukiang " 33,000	"	113,520	"
99,565		260,955	

TYPES OF FELICITY.

Who is the happy Skipper? What is he? Who every Second Mate should wish to be? What though his whiskers curl about his ears? He's not the only tyrant he appears. His benisons are not all oaths; oh no! Nor his curses invariably a blow. Contrast, his blame is his career, His curses seem a last attempt to bless. Whence are shipped, he dries his shipping tars With "not belying pins and capstan bars." But extracts from the ("London" Daily News). Especially the critiques and reviews; And cheer their spirits when by storm imperilled With tale-tattle from the ("New York" Herald). His language, tempered—so to speak, annealed—After the model of Lord Chesterfield, Is from some points of view, "too bright and good."

May be, for human nature's daily food. To all his crew he speaks with polished ease: "John, be so good,"—"Now, William, if you please."

"Thomas, I beg,"—"or, "Robert, may I ask?" So kind his manner when he sets a task. Descended from the famous Captain Reece, He makes his ship a modern *Maestrius*! Of him his crew with loving reverence speak And seldom have him up before the Beak.

Such is the happy Skipper; such is he Who every Second Mate should wish to be.—*Mercury*.

FOOCHOW.

16th May, 1891.

We understand that the price of Flowery Pekoe up country is \$140 per picul. The heavy rain on Saturday last has demolished another fire wall over the Bridge, and we regret to learn that seven inmates of a house were buried under it.

During the latter part of the week the price of rice has gone up some thirty cents a picul, and the cause of the rise is the usual old story—"too much rain!" And yet junks loaded with rice are arriving freely from North and South into this port. The rice is undoubtedly, as we have stated before, a *quibus* by the retail dealers, who we observe, have never failed to put up the price as soon as the weather has been rainy for two or three days. Such proceedings deserve the gravest attention of the authorities, as it is a most barefaced robbery of the poorer classes in these hard times.

It has not been officially notified, but we hear that the Stewards of the Foochow Race Club proposed to hold a Scoury Race-Meeting on the afternoon of the 27th instant. A few energetic riders attend at the Race-course every morning, endeavouring to get their mokes somewhat fit to gallop, but we fear it is a waste of labour. The Race-course is thoroughly saturated with water, and is quite rotten, and unsafe to gallop upon. With every prospect of this wet weather continuing, and it is reasonable to just now, we think the odds are Lombard Street to a China orange that the meeting will not take place. In any case, should the rain cease, the course will not be fit for racing for at least two weeks.—*Echo*.

CHEFOO.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

6th May, 1891.

A violent gale from the S.W., which sprang up with remarkable suddenness, commenced to blow on Sunday morning and continued with

great force throughout that day and Monday, causing, with the same abruptness with which it had started, shortly after sunset on Monday, while the gale lasted, the sea in the harbour presented a very wild and turbulent aspect. The flying spray was swept high in air over the huge waves, which broke over each other in seething masses of white foam, their whiteness being intensified by the strange lurid colour of the sky above, which seemed to frown a menace upon the warring elements beneath.

Thick clouds of dust swept all through the settlement, blinding those unfortunate pedestrians whom necessity compelled to face the howling storm, and penetrative tightly closed doors and windows, and making everything generally grimy with a thick coating of pulverized filth.

The small tug that plies between here and Weihaiwei while returning from the latter place early this morning sighted an overturned boat which, upon being approached, was discovered to be a small fishing craft that had been capsized the previous night, drowning three of the occupants who upon the boat being sighted, were found under the hatch of the small cabin. The only survivor—an old man—who had managed to crawl on the bottom of the overturned boat, was taken on board the tug in a very weak and exhausted condition. No doubt other casualties have occurred among the small native craft, many of which must have been caught in the gale on Monday.

Two of the Nestorian priests, to whom you referred a few days ago, have lately paid Chefoo a visit, and now a glance at the denomination of a dollar, I was enabled to obtain of their subscription-book! should conclude that they have reaped a goodly harvest as, nothing daunted, they importuned anybody and everybody, being rarely met by a refusal. They were not loquacious; their limited stock of English prevented that; they simply bowed and smiled—a good old primitive Christian smile, though, by the way, strongly redolent of ancient Houndsditch—and presented their rather grimy book and a slip of paper setting forth the object of their mission—and signed by one of our resident doctors, who stated his inability to vouch for their "orthodoxy," though, methinks, the broad point of their *bonitas* was of more importance to the charitably disposed than the narrower question of their religious *credo*. It would be interesting to learn the amount of money collected by these representatives of a long time! Important sect whose enterprise had led them to journey all this distance from their native mountains of Kurdistan.

I hear that Mr. Frank Smith, of the Customs' service, leaves next month for England, on a well-earned vacation of two years.—*N. C. Daily News*.

CHUNGKING.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

April 24th

We are still here in *statis quo* or, in military parlance, "marking time." The foreign Custom House was opened on the 1st March with a great flourish of trumpets, grand official reception, dramatic displays of gorgeous robes, processions of sedan chairs and firing of guns; a special junk harbour was marked out on the opposite bank of the mighty river for the anchorage of junks sailing under the new rules, and a convenient temple nearby rented as a residence for the foreign examining staff, the most courteous of Commissioners, Mr. H. E. Hobson, who has been here for a week since last autumn settling the preliminary, assisted by an exceptionally competent indoor staff, sit daily at "the receipt of custom" which, come what may, charm the Taoist never so wisely. It is consoling to a Britisher to know that the awe-inspiring representative of his own most influential and non-gullible Government held himself rigidly aloof from all the perils of the moment—forensic doubts (I mean the Minister behind him) that nothing real was intended. Having vanquished the threatened invasion of the *Kuhing*, it is a small matter now to postpone the promised opening of the port to foreign foreign-owned, until the Greek calendar is done. Not that absolutely nothing has been done or is doing. The Chinese merchants, who are the people chiefly interested and who, with their usual common sense, ceased to take any interest in the so-called opening, once they learnt that the hoped for coming of a steamship was a vain delusion, now find that instead of their business being facilitated by the change, it is virtually brought to a standstill. This unexpected state of things has been brought about by a notice from the Taoist that no goods are to pass through the new office for which *Hkin* or Transit certificates cannot be produced. Unfortunately our Governments have agreed to this clause being generally inserted in the foreign Customs regulations at all the ports, notwithstanding that it is manifestly at variance with treaties which stipulate for an export duty of five per cent, or any other figure. However, there it is, and I suppose the Shanghai Taoist would be in his right if he were to charge twenty-five per cent. *Hkin* on silk from Wuchow and so quintuple the stipulated tariff duty, as far as not impeded by transit passes. Be this as it may, our merchants here say that no tax was ever levied before on produce leaving the city for down-river, and further that any *Hkin* that was levied before was collected at the barrier before entering the city. It is after passing these barriers that the goods are sold to our local merchants and brokers who export them to Hankow. Now the Taoist wants another *Hkin* on the raw produce before it passes the new Customs, where it has now to pay full export duty and a half-duty; and this irrespective of what the goods have already paid. This, the merchants say, is impossible. Once the goods enter the city they are sorted, classified and sold all over the different markets in the place. So they positively refuse to pay this new import and threaten to shut up shop until their governors and masters revert to a more reasonable frame of mind. This "strike" plan is not new in Chungking but it will not be lightly adopted as, serious though it would undoubtedly be for the authorities, the merchants too risk heavy loss in the riot that would certainly ensue, should the officials prove stiff-necked and not give way to mob demonstrations at the first symptom of violence, which tell the truth, they almost invariably do.

No city of its size that I know has so large a proportion of its inhabitants dependent upon their daily earnings for their subsistence. Up the steep rocky stairs that give access to the walls of this fortress-like town, everything, including the daily supply of water and fuel, is carried some hundreds of feet by vast gangs of coolies; each boat, and manifestly at the trade number thousands—has its crew of hungry trackers. These are not people to be trifled with off, and—as the brokers say—when the merchants close, the coolies will soon settle the Taoist and his new *Hkin*. As Sir Lucius O'Trigger says,—"It's a mighty pretty quarrel as it now stands,—and there's lots of quiet sleeping ground in the abbey yonder," and indeed it would be amusing enough for us all and give us a little excitement in this dull corner to look on while the quarrel is being fought out, but for the fact that the unfortunate folk are liable to come in as the scapegoat. And the pity of it is that nothing is wanted but a little firmness and plain speaking on the part of our Representatives to put a stop to all this fooling. But the British

Government, at whose instigation all this disturbance has arisen, seem now to have forgotten the existence of the port which it made to much fuss about opening.—*N. C. Daily News*.

CHINAN FU.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

April 27th.

In the last few weeks there have been several calamities befalling this city. Nearly two weeks ago a fire occurred at the residence of a prominent official, a relative of the Governor. Some priests were performing rites in honour of the dead, and the paper that was burned set fire to the mat-tent, and so to the house. Three persons were lost in the flames.

A week ago a large fire occurred in the city south of the Treasurer's *amtsu*, burning some thirty buildings on one of the business streets; just as this fire was raging another fire occurred in the west suburb which, however, was speedily overcome.

Last week as the Governor was returning from his tour of inspection, a sad calamity befell his retinue. They came down the Yellow River with the rushing tide when a heavy wind struck one of the boats, which as it turned nearly over struck another boat, which capsized. Some forty persons are reported as lost, some of them officials, soldiers, etc.

Owing to these occurrences the Governor has been in a state of deep distress. The fire-god and river-god are both objects of enmity at present, while the calamities are regarded as the wrath of heaven.

Rumours have been afloat of a war with Russia. The people hear of the Russian King or some one of rank coming to China with millions of soldiers, and the cause is

SUPREME COURT.

IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

(Before Sir James Russell, Chief Justice.)

May 20th.

THE AFFRAY AT COSMOPOLITAN DOCK.

Toh Sin, comrade of the Cosmopolitan Dock, was indicted first with feloniously wounding Yu Shan with intent, and secondly with causing bodily hurt, on the 4th March. The following jurors were empanelled:—P. G. Kribbe, H. J. Milne, de Figueiredo, R. T. Wright, H. W. B. Ebbens, E. A. Rand, J. Wilkie, and E. Maricelo.—The Attorney-General (Mr. W. C. Goodman) prosecuted, and Mr. Francis, Q. C., defended.

The Attorney-General rehearsed the facts of the case, to the effect that the defendant, Toh Sin, was indicted first with feloniously wounding Yu Shan with intent, and secondly with causing bodily hurt, on the 4th March. The following jurors were empanelled:—P. G. Kribbe, H. J. Milne, de Figueiredo, R. T. Wright, H. W. B. Ebbens, E. A. Rand, J. Wilkie, and E. Maricelo.—The Attorney-General (Mr. W. C. Goodman) prosecuted, and Mr. Francis, Q. C., defended.

The evidence of Yu Shan and Leong Fat went to show that prisoner had set up a gambling place. The man who could not pay the four cents left his coat as security, and next day took the money and asked for his coat. When in the comrade's house, where engine fitters, assaulted him, and this led to a general fight between the fitters and the boiler-makers. Yu Shan saw prisoner attacking a man, and at once called out to his friends. Toh Sin then cut down Yu Shan, and some fifty or sixty on each side took part in the fight.

The Sikh watchman stated that he did not see any blow struck, as immediately the disturbance began he ran away, and did not return until all was quiet.

Mr. Henry Smith, superintendent at the Dock, said that defendant had been eight years in the Company's service, and was always very quiet and well behaved.

Mr. Francis addressed the jury, urging the insufficiency of the evidence against the prisoner. A fight took place among scores of coolies, and the prisoner was charged as the responsible man, although there was no clear evidence against him. And even if it was he who did use violence, it was necessary in defence, as the comrade's duty was to keep order, in the case of police or European authority. It was evident that a large crowd of men went to the spot armed, intending to fight, and the prisoner was in serious danger.

The Attorney-General replied briefly. The gambling house established by prisoner was the fons et origo of the whole quarrel, which ended fatally. There was no evidence that the comrade was attacked or compelled to defend himself with the sword; the men whom he cut were themselves unarmed.

The Chief Justice, in summing up, reviewed the evidence in detail, pointing out that no man had a right, when taking arms in self defence, to pursue his assailants and cut them down as they ran away. There was not much doubt that the comrade did this, and the excuses put forward for him were not a defence. That was the only material point for the jury to decide.

The jury acquitted the prisoner on the first count, and found him guilty on the second by a majority of six to one, adding a recommendation to mercy. On the ground that he received great provocation.

Sentence was deferred until to-morrow.

(Before Mr. E. J. Ackroyd, Acting Puisne Judge.)

May 21st.

THE CHAIN-GANG ESCAPE CASE.

Shing A Ping was charged with (1) wounding Jandu, a sentry, at Lap-sap-wan on June 15, 1887 with intent to prevent his detention; (2) causing hurt to Jandu; (3) escaping from legal custody. He pleaded guilty to the third charge and was found guilty by the jury. The following jurors were empanelled:—Messrs. J. Lowrie, W. R. Neill, P. Jordan, A. Wilson, J. B. Gomes, J. Humby, and A. W. Millar.

The Attorney-General said that the first charge was the most serious one. Prisoner had been sentenced to five years penal servitude in January 1887 for being in possession of goods stolen by pirates. Before he had served 17 months of his sentence he escaped, with ten other convicts. On June 15, 1887, a chain gang was at work in Kennedy Town. There must have been outside confederates. A preconcerted plan, for a sampan was lying ready. About eleven o'clock in the morning one of the gang tossed his basket of earth up in the air, so that some of the dust got into the eyes of the guard, Jandu. While he was thus blinded the whole gang rushed upon him, beat him severely on the head with bamboo, got him down on the ground, and forced him to let go his carbine, by striking him with a stone. They then escaped in the boat, with their accomplices, and only three had been seen caught. Prisoner was the man who struck the guard with a bamboo.

The evidence of F. J. Horne, W. Foulkes, and Jandu, who all saw the affair and identified the prisoner, proved the charge of assault.

The jury found the prisoner guilty on all three charges. Sentence was deferred until Saturday.

(Before Sir James Russell, Chief Justice.)

May 23rd.

DISTRIBUTION OF HONOURS.

Five prisoners convicted at the May Sessions were brought up this morning to receive the reward of their exploits.

The Shal Wan pirates, Tan A Lai and Wang Sam, on being informed that they had been convicted by a majority of five to two, protested that the charge was a shameful fabrication by malicious traduce, got up to affect the mind of honest and worthy citizens. His Lordship said it was proved conclusively that they had committed a very bold piracy, attacking a vessel in the harbour, within sight of the shore, less than two yards from the Colony a vessel was held for two days, and it very luckily happened that no actual violence was used. All the moveable property was carried away and disposed of, and apparently the object in keeping the ship so long was to get clear away with the goods and money before an alarm was raised. Piracies of this kind must be put down with a strong hand. The sentence was five years penal servitude each.

THE COSMOPOLITAN DOCK AFFRAY.

To Sin, the comrade of the Cosmopolitan Dock, was next in the procession. His Lordship said he was very sorry to see a man of such standing and good character get himself into this position. The jury found him guilty of unlawfully and maliciously wounding, but not of the more serious crime of feloniously wounding with intent; and they added a rider recommending the prisoner to mercy on account of the great provocation he had received. This the Chief Justice fully endorsed. A band of engineers and fitters came over in consequence of some previous dispute, intent on mischief, and when they got to the dock, the fitters took arms only after seeing his friend Yu Shan mortally stabbed. Then he lost his head

completely, and slashed and cut at everybody in his way. He seemed to be ordinarily a quiet and peaceable man, but he must know that it was wrong to take up arms and run after his assailants. The case would be met by a sentence of six months' hard labour.

(Before Mr. E. J. Ackroyd, Acting Puisne Judge.)

Chang Tye, convicted of robbery from the person with violence, and bearing arms, made a touching appeal for mercy. The Judge gently broke it to him that he was liable to a life sentence. He would, however, respond to prisoner's appeal by deposing him from the island, after having served his gracious Majesty diligently for a year, and sampled corporal punishment in two doses of 25 strokes each.

THE CHAIN GANG ESCAPE.

Shing A Ping repeated his confession of having escaped from the Chain-gang at Kennedy Town. The Judge hardened his heart, and sent him back to complete his original engagement at shot-firing, then to continue it for a further three years for nearly murdering the guard, and finally, for the escape, one year, concurrently. The Court then adjourned.

IN BANKRUPTCY.

(Before Chief Justice Sir J. Russell.)

May 26th.

Tan Kim Hoon came up for his final examination. Mr. Walton appearing for him, and Mr. Geddes for the chief creditor. Liabilities were stated at \$7,950.60 and assets at present \$12, but bankrupt was entitled to a share in certain property which he heavily mortgaged. One claim only had been proved, that of A. Tack, on a promissory note for \$500, which was stated as the cause of the bankruptcy, the debtor being liable for debts contracted by his co-executor, Liu Lum. Liu Lum conducted the business of Achee, furniture dealer, Queen's Road, on behalf of the widow. He seemed to have borrowed extensively. Attack was a trade rival. The co-executors only discovered how Liu Lum was acting when it was too late. He then left the Colony, and was recovered for his debts against his co-executors.

Mr. Geddes said the executors had always passed as owners of the shop and it was only when judgment had been obtained against them that one abandoned and the others went bankrupt and declared themselves to be only executors.

After a few questions the bankrupt was ordered to come up again on May 5.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

(Before Mr. E. J. Ackroyd, Acting Puisne Judge.)

May 27th.

HANCOCK VS. SHAMKIN HOTEL.

This was an action to recover fees and charges as architect to the Shamkin Hotel Co., Limited, and there was a cross suit for money advanced. Mr. Robinson, instructed by Mr. B. Roddy, appeared for the Company, and Mr. Rees for Mr. W. S. J. Hancock.

Mr. Rees said that it would be for him to commence, though defending in the first suit, because the plaintiffs (defendants in the second case) gave credit for \$110 claimed, and in the second they gave credit for \$380. Mr. Hancock's suit was for \$341.15, balance due from defendants for rent of office and other matters stated in the particulars, showing how the various accounts were calculated. Mr. Hancock was engaged as architect to the Company in 1889, and did certain work for them. This was in three distinct acts—first, preparing plans for a hotel building on Lot 24 (Cecilia Lane) Shamkin, and making reports and estimates for the building, which was to cost \$15,000, but the proposal fell through. Then the second set of work was to prepare plans for altering the Concordia Hall, which did ultimately become the Shamkin Hotel. Thirdly, it was proposed that an annex be built to the Concordia Hall, and prepared plans for that. On the first item he charged only \$150, or one per cent. of the proposed cost. The item was first put at \$310, but Mr. Hancock himself reduced it by \$100, as the plan fell through and he was to do other work for the Company; then at their request he further reduced it by \$60, thus making it \$150 only, or \$400 for the whole. That amount was practically admitted by the defendants. On the day before it was last sent in he had an interview with Mr. Fraser-Smith, who told him that the directors would pass the accounts subject to reduction, which he accordingly made. No objection was taken to this, and \$400 had been paid on account, according to Mr. Barretto, leaving \$30 due. That established the principle on which the claim was made, for Mr. Barretto made certain red ink notes showing that he understood \$400 to have been paid, though actually only \$200 had been paid. But no objection was taken to some of the items. A charge of \$50 for each visit to Shamkin occurred in the first account, and also in the other two, so that if this first bill of \$400 was proved, the \$50 charge would stand to the other bills. Another point raised was as to rent for office in the second set of accounts. Mr. Barretto said he was under the impression that no rent was to be charged; but plaintiff denied having ever agreed to this.

Mr. Robinson, in reply to his Lordship, denied that the first set of accounts was admitted.

William St. John Hancock was then called, and detailed at great length the work he had done and the arrangements made with defendants, showing how the various items in the accounts were made out.

In cross-examination witness admitted that he had received \$380 as payment for certain fittings which he was to order from him, but, as the money was received too late he did not send the order, and kept the money in hand. He did not return the money to the Company, and for them until some months later, after the fittings had not having been ordered. When he sent in his account it was put down at \$400, and he did not deduct the \$370. He never definitely set off the \$380 against his claim, until 13th March 1891. The last account sent in before that date was 16th November 1889. At that time he knew the fittings were not to be ordered, but had not made up his mind to set off the \$380 against the \$400. He only wished then to send in accounts up to 30th September. It would have simplified matters to put in the \$380. His Lordship—You ought to have deducted it from the accounts. Instead of that you did not return the money, but you write saying "Please send cheque for \$400."

After a few further questions by the Court, the case for the plaintiff was concluded.

Mr. Robinson, in opening the case for the Company, submitted that the appropriate sum for the \$380 to be paid to the Company, and Mr. Hancock to get certain things from England could not be upheld. It was a simple matter of account, the question being whether or not Mr. Hancock had been indemnified for the work he did, but he had stuck to \$380, which was obviously more than he was entitled to. He claimed \$1200 in respect to a contract, the practical part of which was only some \$350—20 per cent. of the contract price. He had got 27 per cent. without the directors' consent, and it was for his Lordship to say whether or not that was excessive. Expert evidence would be

given, showing that his charges were exorbitant, and Mr. Fraser-Smith would detail the circumstances under which charges for rent were made.

Mr. Fraser-Smith was then called, and said:—I am chairman of the board of directors of the Shamkin Hotel Company. Mr. Hancock went to Canton in July 1889, with myself and Mr. Pitman, to make an inspection of the site which the Company had purchased to build a hotel on. Mr. Denison had previously prepared a plan, but Mr. Hancock was engaged because the board doubted the suitability of the place for the purpose. We inspected the site, and Mr. Hancock unhesitatingly pronounced it unfit. Mr. Pitman suggested that we should visit the Concordia Hall, which Mr. Hancock strongly advised against. On his report I entered into negotiations with Messrs. Chater and Mody, the owners, and eventually we purchased the place for \$20,000. Mr. Hancock was retained as architect to supervise the alteration of the building, and supplied plans. He had given us none in connection with the Ice-house lot. The board refused to pay the charge for such plans, and Mr. Hancock said he was entitled to make the charge for advice. I offered to recommend the board to pay him \$150 for what he called a plan, and a further \$150 for his own convenience. He agreed to that, and in November 1889 sent in an account for \$400 in pursuance of our arrangement. No plans for the alterations were supplied, and none were included in the bill. It was not understood that Mr. Hancock should charge for his visits to Canton whilst retained as architect to the Company. His visits on other occasions were principally made in connection with a scheme for a Bund, then being promoted by the Viceroy. With reference to a charge of \$160 for rent, Mr. Hancock suggested that the clerical work of the Company should be done in his office, for his own convenience. It had previously been done in my premises, without any charge.

Cross-examined—The plans produced were never made for the Company, but must have been for the purposes of this suit. Witness had not consented to the whole of the charges, but to one charge of \$50 for a special visit. As to one of the plans alleged to have been supplied to the Company, witness was quite certain there was no such plan among the records of the Company although there was no reply to his letter saying he enclosed such a plan. Plaintiff was not entitled to charge for that. As to the "rent of office" charge, the only office was Mr. Hancock's drawing office, where one desk was used for the Marina and the Hotel Co.; \$20 a month was an excessive charge for a desk. If Mr. Barretto had said it was a fair charge witness would have opposed it, as the office was not at Hancock's request on the understanding that it was to be no rent. Mr. Hancock owed \$380 to the Company and \$110 in debts, and in March 1891 when the Company intended to sue him, they asked what he claimed—not because they did not consider the accounts settled between them. Previous payments had quite met all claims, and were not simply made on account. Until this time Hancock had sent in no account. Witness considered the accounts settled when he suggested the reduction of the first item to \$150.

Re-examined—Witness never gave any plan or specification for the annex, and there was no mention of it in the Company's minute book.

By the Court—All the plans stated to have been supplied were no doubt in accordance with the Company's intentions, but certainly they were not all supplied. Witness knew nothing of the \$300 which plaintiff said he had lent to the Company. Witness had been until quite recently under the impression that Hancock had used the \$300 for fittings as directed.

Witness was then called to give technical evidence. Was well acquainted with architectural work in Hongkong and Canton. Some of the charges made by plaintiff were entirely contrary to witness's experience. As to the plans which could not be found, but which plaintiff asserted he had made, it was usual to keep a copy in the architect's office. It was impossible to say what would be a fair charge for plans without seeing them. It was not usual to charge for going to clients for a consultation. The commission on total cost was usually made to cover all necessary attendances. Usually it was 5 per cent. on buildings, and 7½ per cent. on old ones. For visits to Canton witness had only bare expenses, but no special fee.

Mr. Robinson explained that he wished to show that "as an architect he was not entitled to charge for every visit, whereas if he were a solicitor he might."

THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION.

Seventy-two years ago that august lady Victoria, Queen of a great part of the map and Empress of most of the rest, was graciously pleased to be born. The event was duly commemorated yesterday (25th inst.) by her loyal subjects in Hongkong, the majority of the tradespeople closing their establishments at 6 p.m., as usual, and the banks, insurance offices, Government departments, and other bodies of industry making it an excuse for a holiday, also as usual. The *Victor Emanuel*, *Imparatus*, and two gunboats dressed ship, a couple of other cruisers did so, and a fast and furious collision also emptied the signal-locker over the main-trunk. At mid-day a salute of twenty-one guns made the welkin ring, and so on. The chief event of the day, however, was the parade by our 400,000 military and auxiliary forces, in the afternoon. The Parade-ground and cricket-field were surrounded by a curious and freely-piercing crowd by five o'clock, when H. E. Major-General Digby Barker, as the Acting Governor, came through the gate and stood under the ordonnance of Britain. A few minutes later the Royal Engineers, and Artillery arrived and occupied the upper end of the ground. After another brief interval the noble gnat, headed by the band, put in an appearance, and a very imposing one at that. With the exception of a slight mishap to the drum-major's helmet, owing to his original method of welding the emblem of the regiment were safely steered into a position along one side of the ground, the flank at the Pavilion end being held by a score or so of our Artillery Volunteers, with four guns. In the centre of the ground were the four Maxim guns ordered by the Government nearly a couple of years ago, and the *tout ensemble* was further enhanced by the squadron of fiery untamed Mounted Volunteers which were to be organised in connection therewith. (These two last items were not visible, to the naked eye, but the Colonial Secretary says we have got them, so it's all right.) After displaying *de visu*, which is the technical way of saying that the troops sprang out, the officers saluted one another ceremoniously, and the Gun Lascars at the Cathedral end, one of the rifles also going off by spontaneous combustion; then, the *troups de feu*, the big drummer flogged the features of his instrument in slow time to the strains of the National Anthem, during which performance the General and all the officers stood saluting the Invisible Presence, the troops did their smoking rifles at an angle of 45°, and several civilians, whose names we are in a position to publish, took off their hats. The final thump of the first four bars over, the Volunteers in their turn banged away blank cartridge very vigorously, and the second gun was on strike. The sponge had taken a fancy to the run, and declined to come out. Whistling had no effect on it. After a hurried corroborative, it was decided to pass on to No. 3 gun, and the whole seven rounds were got off, the band accompanying. The rattle of musketry was followed by another spontaneous display of the National Anthem. Consider it all done a third time, and we next see the regiment taking off its helmet like one man and rendering the air with well-simulated enthusiasm, so far as they could throw expression into "Hooray!" Under cover of the cheers a colour-sergeant, attended by two litted ladders, wandered off to a conspicuous position with the colours, which had up to then been waving over the centre of the line, and the two Savona's walked to the rear in the last quarter of eight, the flag. A few minutes later a company wheeled out and advanced until they were near enough to club the felonious sergeant, who seemed to have too much to carry, with flag, rifle, and dignity. The lieutenant stepped forward and made two cuts at him, took the colors away, and turned to the company, who expressed their admiration of his temerity in dumb show. Everybody went back to his place then, and the band struck up "Annie Rooney," or something to that effect. To these inspiring strains the march was begun, and a very pretty sight it was. First came the Engineers, then the Artillery, the Volunteers next, led by Capt. McCallum, (who was about the only soldier-looking man in the whole two dozen); the pipers, and finally the A. and S. Highlanders, looking and marching their very best as they passed the saluting point. The line was able to keep right up, but the Volunteers first tumbled over each other and then upset their guns, amid loud cheers. About this time the band was playing "God Save the Queen," which was delivered, the persevering loyal having by this time wearied of taking off their hats. Then the pipers were turned loose again, and while nobody was watching the Volunteers got away. The Engineers and Artillery followed, and the canny Scots were last to quit.

Another birthday parade on a small scale took place yesterday morning. All the "drunks" and others arrested on Saturday and Sunday were paraded at the Magistracy, in command of the police, in which the General didn't come, although on the last public holiday, Monday, he nobly proved that when duty called he preferred work to rest. However, this time the law gave him no option; he enjoyed a well-deserved holiday, and the procession had to march back.

At the Central Police Station this morning (27th inst.) Chief Inspector Cradock, who is leaving the Hongkong Police Force through failing health, after nearly a quarter of a century's service, was presented with a valuable gold watch and chain by the members of the Force.

The Acting Captain Superintendent of Police (Mr. G. Horspool), in making the presentation, said:—"Mr. Cradock, I have just been asked to preside at this official 'Good-bye' to you to-day, on the eve of your leaving us, on pension, but I really am quite at a loss as to what I am to say. It doesn't appear as though since I first saw you here, a smart young police constable, but it really is more than twenty-four years' promotion in the force in those days, as compared with the present time, was very rapid, and you rose to the rank of Inspector in the short space of eighteen months. You have been acting Chief Inspector for the past eleven months and you had previously held the same appointment on several occasions. During the latter half of your service, previous to that, you were in charge of the Water Police, a most important post, and one which you filled with credit. During a very heavy gale in September 1878 you were instrumental in saving the lives of two persons in the harbour, for which you were awarded a first class gold medal for meritorious conduct. You have also taken your share of active service ashore, and some years ago, when in charge of the Kowloon District Police, you were severely wounded. We are sorry that you are now leaving us on account of the state of your health, but we hope that it will be much improved by the trip home, and quite restored by a quiet home life, and that you may live long in the enjoyment of your well-earned pension. In saying good-bye to you the members of the Force tender their best wishes and ask your acceptance from them of this watch and chain as a token of their esteem and respect, trusting it may be, from time to time, of recalling to you some pleasant memories of your service here during nearly a quarter of a century of your life—and giving a kindly thought to those still left behind, serving in the Hongkong Police."

Chief Inspector Cradock, in acknowledging the gift, said:—"Acting Captain Superintendent Horspool, brother officers, and members of the Force.—It gives me great pleasure to be called here before you to-day to receive from you such a handsome present on my retirement from the Force. I can assure you that I will keep it in lasting remembrance of the Hongkong Police Force and its members. Thanking you all cordially for the gift and good wishes I will say good-bye to all, and wish you all long life and prosperity."

The watch bore the following inscription:—"Presented to Acting Chief Inspector Cradock by the Members of the Hongkong Police Force as a mark of their esteem. 28th May, 1891."

Mr. Cradock leaves for England to-morrow by the P. & O. steamer *Thames*.

THREATENED DISTURBANCES IN THE NORTH.

FOREIGN GUNBOATS ORDERED UP.

Our Shanghai contemporaries for the past week contain long accounts of threatened anti-Foreign outbreaks in various Northern ports. The principal disturbances were at Nanking, the first intimation being contained in a letter dated 16th inst. which reached Shanghai from Chinkiang, stating that an uneasy feeling prevailed at Nanking among the foreigners, hostile placards having been posted up, and it being rumored that some of the foreign graves had been desecrated.

On the 17th a telegram dated Wuhu, 11:30 a.m., was received at Shanghai, which read as follows:—"Threatened outbreak at Nanking. *Incident* has left for there; *Incident* expected. The *Incident* reached Nanking at 11 p.m. on the 17th before any trouble had arisen. Some 2,000 natives had congregated, but had been dispersed by the Magistrate."

At Chinkiang some uneasiness was felt, as the 17th is a great Chinese festival and the Chinese authorities were undecided how to act in the matter. If they permitted the processions, thousands of people would flock in to the Settlement, and the rowdy element would be sure to be well represented, and might cause some trouble. On the other hand, if the processions were forbidden, the people might get excited and angry and retaliate by attacking the Concession, so that under the circumstances the residents had a rather anxious time of it. H.M.S. *Swift*, which had been ordered up the river to Wuhu, was delayed owing to the difficulty in obtaining a pilot.

One of the Shanghai steamer companies having allowed one of their pilots to go in the *Swift*, that vessel left on the morning of the 20th for the river.

On the 18th Mr. von Locher, the Acting Consul-General for Germany at Shanghai, telegraphed to the Viceroy at Nanking, claiming his protection for the German missionary at Nanking, and received the following reply:—"To the German Consul-General—"

"I have received and read your telegraphic message. At present in the city of Nanking there are the various officers in charge. There are also soldiers to keep the people under restraint. I shall certainly not allow ignorant persons to raise disturbances. I, the Governor-General, have already sent orders by telegraph to the prefect Shen in charge to carefully keep watch and thoroughly and securely protect (those who may be attacked)."

"I of the surname Liu send this telegram. H.M.G.'s gunboat *Mits* arrived at Nanking on the 19th, and the commander telegraphed to Mr. von Locher that all was quiet, but the German missionary there had asked that the *Mits* might remain for three days."

In the meantime the *Incident* anchored below the walls of the town, not far from the house of the missionaries. The captain at once received a letter from the Fathers informing him of the state of affairs. Besides he was himself already on the way in a steam launch to get intelligence. He went on board again to write a letter to the Governor of the town, assuring him of his peaceable intentions, and of his desire to act in concert with the Chinese authorities to maintain order and put down the riot. But he made it understood that if the rioters did not listen to the magistrate, as was the case at Wuhu, he would not hesitate to take strong measures, leaving the responsibility of any further consequences to rest in the proper quarter. The Governor replied that order would be maintained and that was no need of alarm. He ordered the *Mits* to go the next day and carry from him this assurance to the captain of the *Incident*.

On the 18th perfect quiet seemed to prevail in the town. On the 19th the *Mits* anchored also below the walls of Nanking. In the forenoon the two captains, accompanied by some officers went together to the house of the missionaries. They informed the Taoist that he could pay his bill there. He came there with his suite, and the interview was a most amicable one. At the same time the Superior-General of the Mission, who had arrived the same morning, thought that he ought to make known very forcibly the incidents of which he was a witness at Wuhu, to the house which he had left only when it was set on fire. From this simple statement was clearly shown the share of each one's responsibility in this lamentable event.

After having visited the mission and its buildings the European officers returned on board, escorted by the guard of the Chinese mandarin.

The following night Captain Ascher received from the German Minister at Peking orders to leave at once for Kinkiang.

At the present moment, (20th), all danger is not at end. Placards posted up this evening, announce for Friday the 22nd the total destruction of all the buildings of the mission.

WUHU.

The troubles here subsided after the arrival of the English gunboat *Linnets* and French vessel *Incident*, which latter afterwards proceeded to Nanking.

A *Mercury* correspondent, writing on the 19th inst. says:—"On Wednesday last three Chinese gunboats arrived at Wuhu; they were on their way to Nanking with the Governor of Anhui on board. Having heard of our trouble they came to anchor. It was circulated that the mob were going to fire the Custom House and river godowns the same evening at 5 o'clock; they would have carried out their intentions if these gunboats had not been there. To make their presence more effective, they came and anchored place inshore inside of all the bulks. This was done through the advice of Captain Grogan of *Jardine's*, who brought in and moored the boat drawing the most water. She was brought in and anchored alongside of the bulk *Madras* in a most praiseworthy manner."

All the Foreign members of the Customs staff, who were under the cool and able guidance of Mr. Commissioner Woodroffe, were quite equal to the occasion. They bivouacked around the Customs premises during the whole time, marching counter-marching and changing four times by time, as occasion required. About 1,000 Foreign houses in all have been looted, seven of which were completely destroyed, including the Sanatorium, Mission Schools, and the partially erected Catholic Cathedral. The five new houses, four of which have been recently occupied by numbers of Customs staff, are completely looted and are now occupied by Chinese thieves.

The Chinese gunboat *Mits* left yesterday morning and proceeded to Nanking, where there are rumours of fresh trouble.

The river steamers have been doing a kind of "entry go" here, each vessel awaiting the arrival of another previous for her departure. A French gunboat is expected, but she has not put in an appearance up to time of writing.

The mob exhumed the body of a priest who was buried about six months ago. On their observing that his eyes were open they declared it was the body of a native whose eyes had been extracted, and this kindled the flame of discord, and a renewed attack was expected last evening, but when the time came everything was quiet. The Chinese soldiers were very civil and on the *quit* *quo*, while a number of the Customs staff are still bivouacking on the Customs premises.

Just as I was sending off this at 4:30 p.m. the French gunboat *Incident* arrived, and as long as she remains here there is no fear of a renewal of the offensive tactics of the mob who have a wholesome dread of her long line of guns, which are trained and pointed inland.

The following villainous proclamation is posted up in the city:—"The people have been injured by the Catholic Mission. At Wuhu the foreigners and Chinese are connected in business. There are many foreigners in Wuhu who have injured the people. A man by the name of H. Shanan was a Chinese who was connected with the Catholic Mission. He was injured by the foreigners. When in court, the Mission women put medicine into the children's noses and eyes. Then they recovered, and everybody saw this. The Mission sent 600 taels to the Wuhu Chinese and purchased their release, which he accepted. The women were released and sent back in chains. According to Chinese law the offence of kidnapping children is a capital crime. The money was used to evade justice. The Magistrate assisted the Mission instead of the people. A man by the name of H. Shanan says there are 30 children lost, and Wang Wong-fa states that 50 children have disappeared, and Sieg states he saw a child sleeping on the bed and suddenly the child was not to be seen. These lost children must be in the Mission. They found the heads of 10 children in four vaults. The Catholic Missionaries saw many Chinese; they were afraid. They gave 150 to the Colonel of Militia named Yao to send 40 men to guard the doors; people wanted to enter. The soldiers threatened to use their knives and cut them down. They did cut two men and wounded them. When the people saw this they determined to burn their houses. All the people on the 20th day of this moon will rise as one man, and go to Yeh-chi-shan, also the Yeh-tai, and burn all the buildings, after which we will not allow the foreigners to rebuild. If they come back we will burn them again. The Customs House must not be touched. If you touch the Customs House you will be beheaded. All the people living in the houses below the river to the respective Missions had better remove their property."

The most severe sufferers by the riots are Messrs. Russell, Dalton, Strangman, Vies, and E. Smith, whose houses have been completely destroyed, and who have lost everything.

For some days past, says the *Shen-keo*, the police in the French Concession at Shanghai have been on the look-out for inflammatory placards, two of which have been already torn down and destroyed. The text of those documents goes on to say the French are always the first among the Foreigners to cause disturbance, and it is towards them more especially the hatred of the Chinese is directed. Instances of this bitter feeling against the French have already been given in Wuhu and other River ports, and the placards warn the French in Shanghai that their turn will soon come, as the patience of the Chinese here, who have always hitherto exhibited generosity and long-suffering, is nearly exhausted. The placards revile the French Mixed Court Magistrate, whom the writer says, was once a home-boy to a foreigner, and is not capable of looking after Chinese interests. In the recent incident he sat like a block, incapable of uttering a word, and left all the work to the Shanghai police. The placard concludes that a general attack will be made upon the foreigners in the French Concession on the 27th of the Chinese moon.

The *N. C. Daily News* of the 22nd inst. says:—"We have been anxious not to cause unnecessary alarm, and we have therefore said very little about the recent unfortunate death of a Chinaman after an encounter with a French policeman; but it cannot be concealed that there is a very strong feeling at the present moment among the Chinese in the city and its vicinity, that justice has not been done in the matter. The Chinese do not understand that European laws do not allow a man to be convicted of murder unless it is satisfactorily proved that he willfully planned the death complained of, and that deep threats are being made of reprisals, unless satisfaction, or what they consider satisfaction, is given. It is to be hoped that the existing dissatisfaction will pass, but there is trouble in the air, though it is not likely to break out while the *Mits* remains here. Those who are responsible for the safety of the settlements are on the alert, and all the necessary preparations have been made by Major M. Linnets, in the event of the services of the Volunteers being required. Already we hear of people in the country being excited, and some menacing. If they are French or English, and their lives are in danger, we shall be sure to have them blowing. Fortunately, we have had sufficient warning, and fore-warned, with prudent people, is fore-armed."

The Taoist, Nieh, issued a proclamation on the 22nd in which he says: "I have received telegraphic instructions from H.E. Liu K'un-yi, the Viceroy of Nanking, authorizing me to call upon the Naval and Military forces if necessary for the protection of all the churches and keep the Settlements in tranquillity, and those instructions, I assure you, I will faithfully carry out. If any secret society men, or evil-doers of any sort, be found in the Settlements inciting the people to turbulence and crime, they will be most severely punished. To incite the people to violence is a very vile and grave offence, and those who are guilty of it are, according to Chinese law, liable to be punished by strangulation or decapitation, and by less severe punishments for offences in a less degree."

THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION.

Seventy-two years ago that august lady Victoria, Queen of a great part of the map and Empress of most of the rest, was graciously pleased to be born. The event was duly commemorated yesterday (25th inst.) by her loyal subjects in Hongkong, the majority of the tradespeople closing their establishments at 6 p.m., as usual, and the banks, insurance offices, Government departments, and other bodies of industry making it an excuse for a holiday, also as usual. The *Victor Emanuel*, *Imparatus*,

